

To the
Abandoned
Sacred
Beasts

VOL.

3

Presented by
MAYBE



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To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

VOL. **3**

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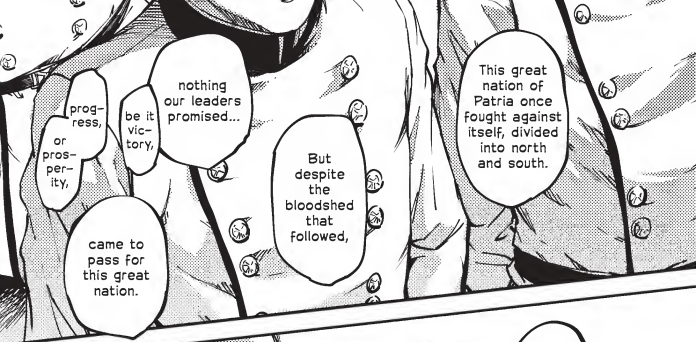
149

16

Target

169





progress,

or prosperity,

be it victory,

nothing our leaders promised...

But despite the bloodshed that followed,

came to pass for this great nation.

This great nation of Patria once fought against itself, divided into north and south.



Ask yourself: Why is this?

We are rich only in hatred.

Justice is scorned.

The people suffer starvation.

Look where we are now.



Because the old rulers lust for riches while spilling no blood of their own!

and their puppets that comprise the government ...

the incompetent "aristocracy" that live only by their anachronistic family names,

Because of the Northern profiteers who grew fat from the war,



You, who
seek true
equality...

We,
the
Incar-
nates,
stand
with
you!

You,
soldiers
who seek
to reclaim
the justice
lost in the
war!

Chapter 11: The Dragon's Daughter



We
stand
on the
brink of
a new
world
order!

CLENCH

that
goes
beyond the
boundaries
of North
and
South!

We
rise to
create
a new
country
of our
own



*of
the
Free
Nation
of
New
Patria
!*

*Let us
declare
this the
birth-
place...*

RAAAAAHH!!!



compensation
for
stolen
pride.

Vengeance
for their
fallen
comrades ...
a
reason
for the
loss of
their
families
...

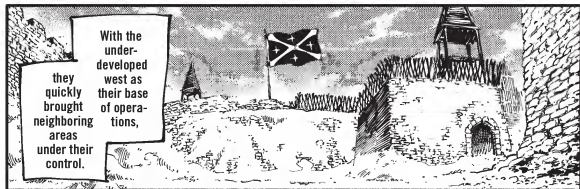
The
people
had
their
needs
...



announced
their
independence
from their
homeland,
Patria,
with Cain
Madhouse's
Incarnates
by their
side.

The
rebellious
energy
which
swept up
mistreated
former
soldiers,

Southern
gentry,
as well as
citizens
disgruntled
with
poverty,



they quickly brought neighboring areas under their control.

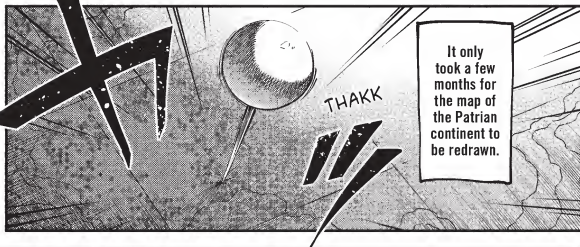
With the under-developed west as their base of operations,



and chose instead to bolster key positions and prepare for the coming all-out war.

not wanting to waste energy, avoided direct confrontation with the rebels,

Still nursing wounds from the last war, Patria's government,

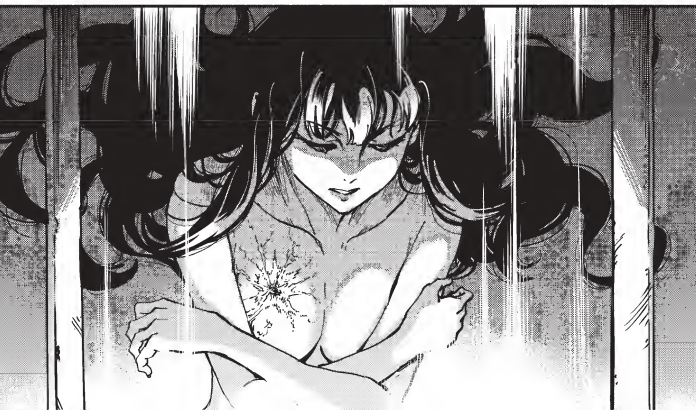


It only took a few months for the map of the Patrian continent to be redrawn.



the footsteps of war drew ever closer...

Quietly, yet certainly,





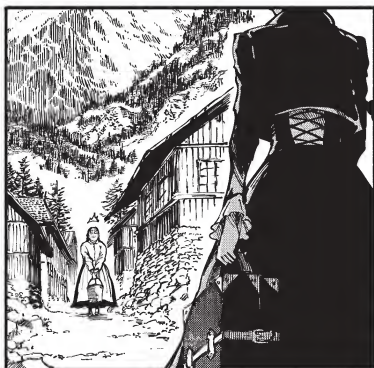
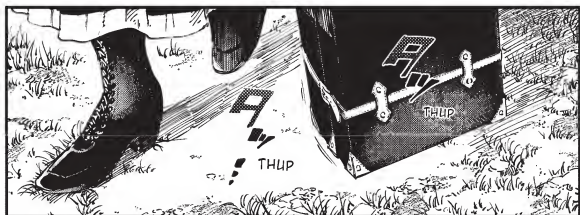
Can
you
see
it?

Elaine
...



The
new world
you tried
to kill

will
soon
be a
reality.





It's
been
a year,
Auntie.

Yes...



Ah
...

Whew

Is
that
so...

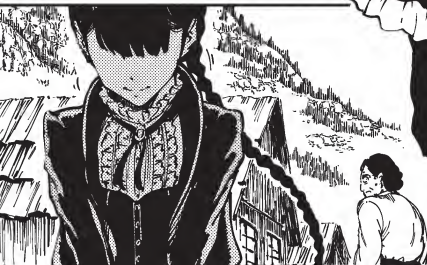


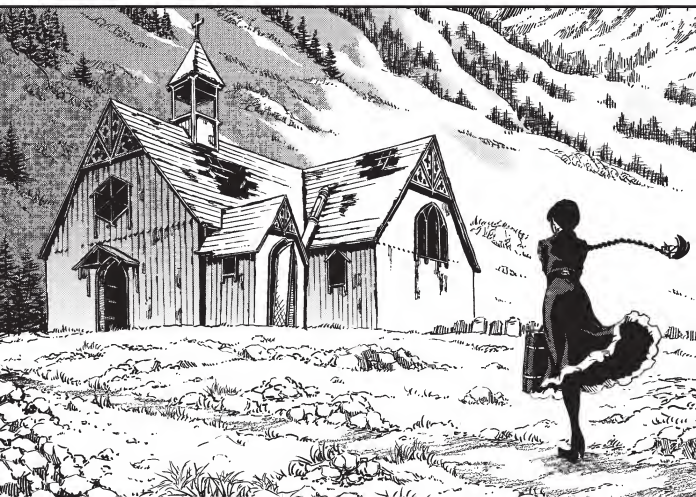
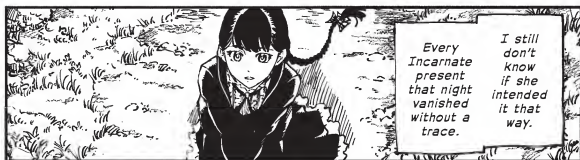
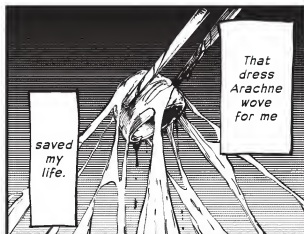
So... Do
you have
plans...?

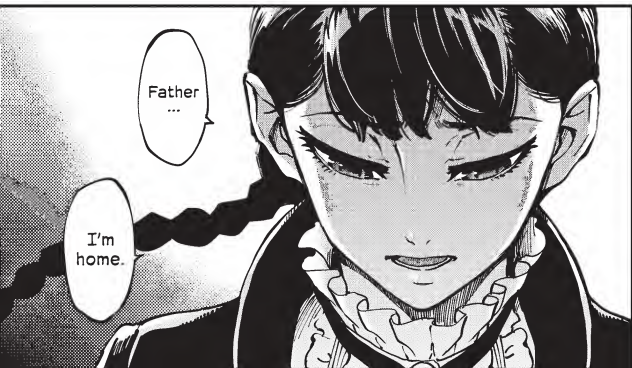
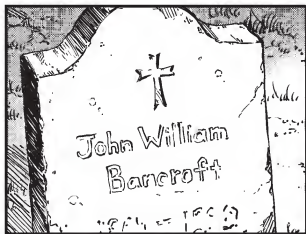
We were all
worried sick
after you up
and left the
village.

Just
drop-
ping by
for a
spell.

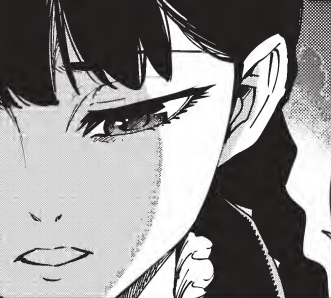
SCHAL!











I met
Hank.

I...

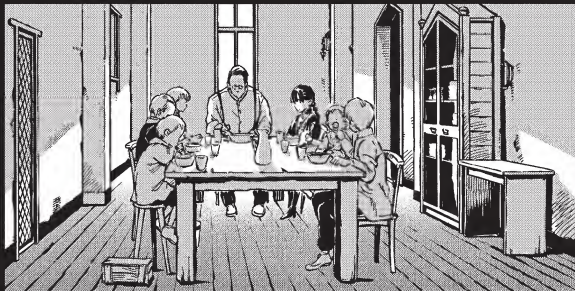


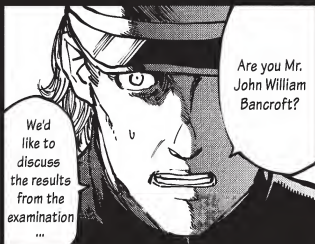
It all
feels so
distant,
like a
dream.

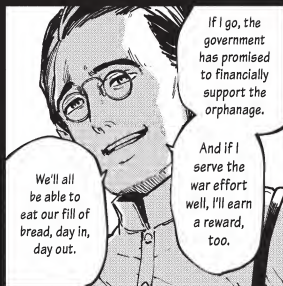
The
day
I
left
...

The
life
I
had
here
...









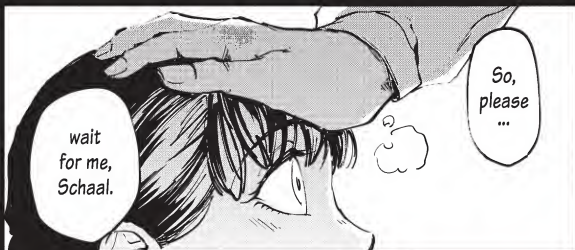
We'll all
be able to
eat our fill of
bread, day in,
day out.

If I go, the
government
has promised to
financially
support the
orphanage.

And if I
serve the
war effort
well, I'll earn
a reward,
too.



Father
...



wait
for me,
Schaal.

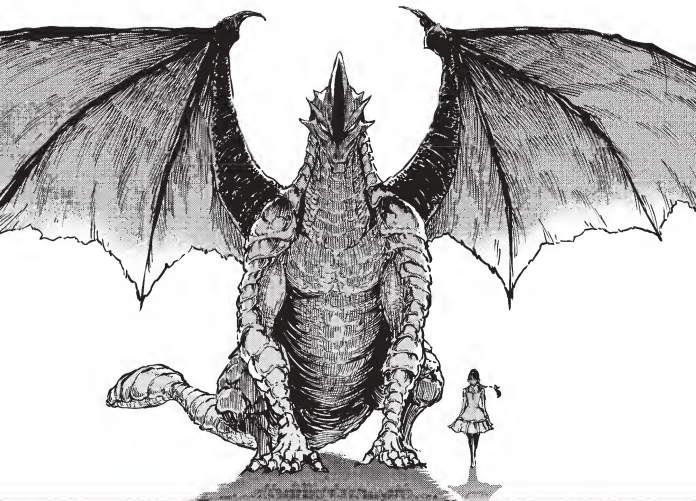
So,
please
...



and
that
things
would
return to
normal
soon.

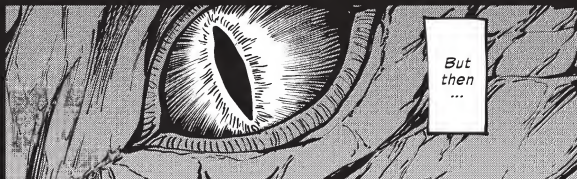
The day
he left
for the war,
I thought
I'd only
miss him
for a little
while,



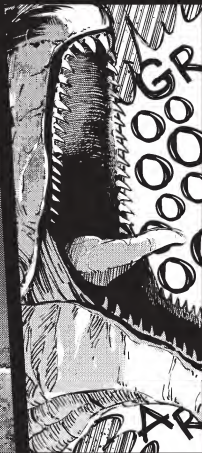
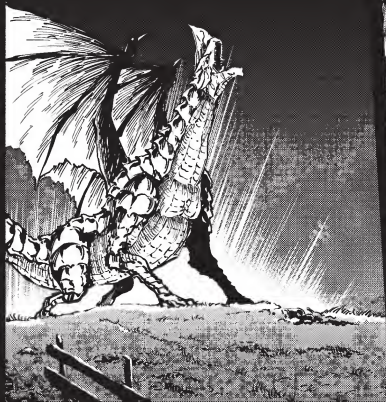


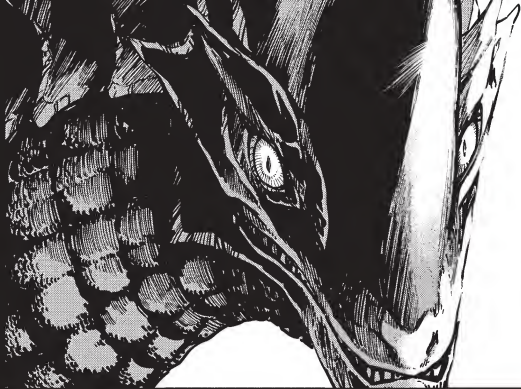
I thought
those happy
days had
returned.
Honestly,
I did.

Father
returned.
He
was
the
same
kind
soul as
before.



But
then
...





*I
just kept
pretending
I hadn't
noticed.*

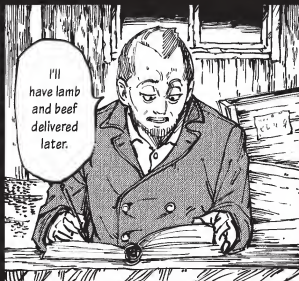
*Thinking
back on
it now,
that war
changed
everything.*



And uhm...
Anything cheap...?
Any old mares
coming to
market?

I'll take a
look when
I buy stock.

I'll
be in the
city this
weekend.



I'll
have lamb
and beef
delivered
later.



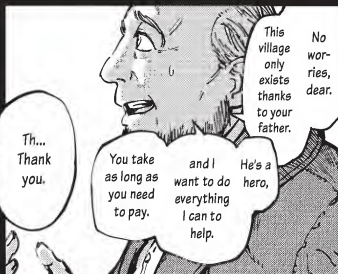
Father's
reward
money
was spent
sending
the kids to
different
orphanages.

What was
left over
went to
food.

We used up the
savings meant
for the children
until they left
the orphanage.

The
orphanage
became
unsustain-
able
after
Father
came
back.

We
needed
massive
amounts
of food
for
him to
maintain
that
huge
body...



Th...
Thank
you.

You take
as long as
you need
to pay.

and I
want to do
everything
I can to
help.

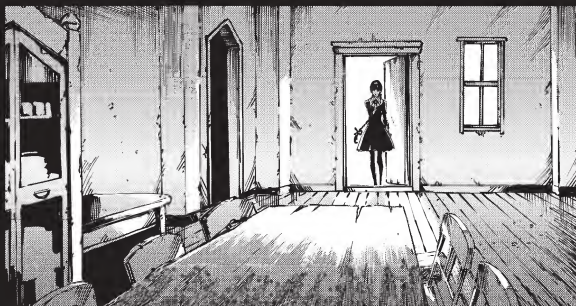
He's a
hero,

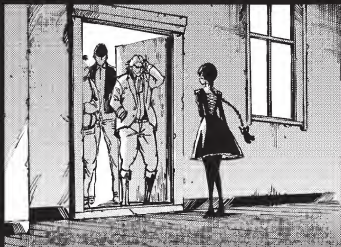
This
village
only
exists
thanks
to your
father.

No
wor-
ries,
dear.



His
veteran's
pension is
coming in at
the end of
the month.
So...





Uh,
well...

Ah...



What
is it?



Its
guts were
completely
devoured.
No human
did this.

That's
more
than ten
in this
village
alone.

If
there
was
another
village
nearby it'd
be even
higher...



One of
Josack's
cows has
been killed.



And you
suspect my
father...?



I've had
enough,
Schaal...

I'm just
worried...

Well... We're
seeing livestock
die, there are
more bandits
than ever...

We
hear scary
rumors of people
becoming
"Incarnate Killers"
...



No
...!

He's a
human
being!



With this,
we can
all rest
easier.

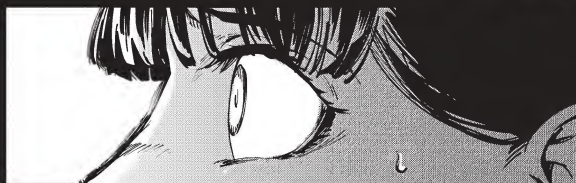
I'm sorry,
but... could
you put
this on your
dad?

It makes
it seem
like he
ain't some
cattle-
eating
beast.

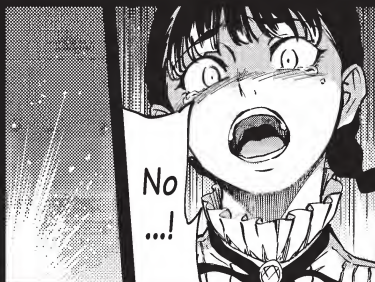


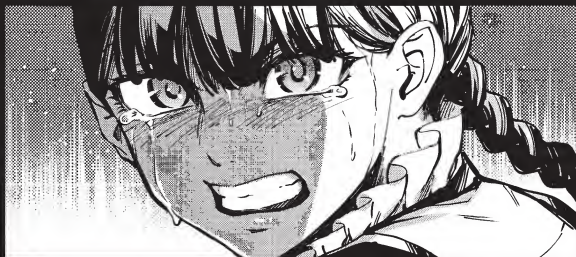
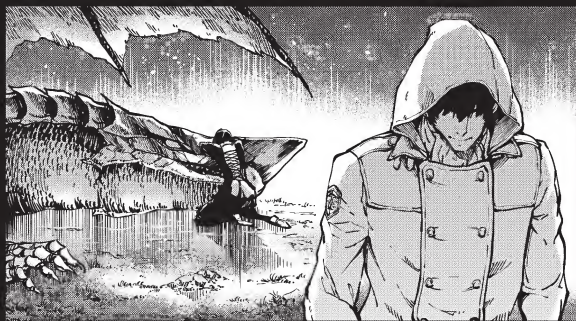
We just
want
things
back to
normal.

If he was
quiet and
docile,
that'd be
fine.









is
when my
journey
began.



That
day,
that
moment,

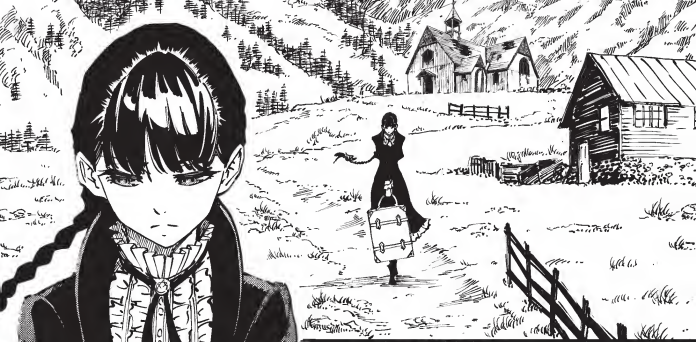
My
journey...
to kill
the
**Beast
Hunter.**



To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts







Done paying
respects to
your father,
Schaal?

Thanks
for
seeing
me
all the
way out
here.

Yes,
it's
fine.

Ah,
they've
arrived,
too.

Liza
...





but now they've stated that any Incarnates deemed harmful will be put down.

They had previously regarded Incarnates as heroes and gave them free rein,

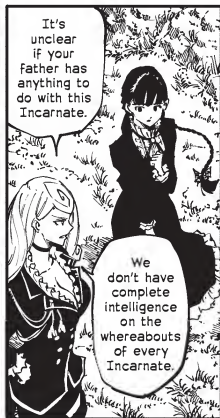
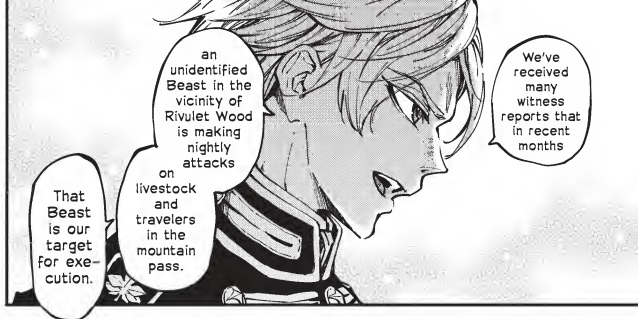
The chaos Hank caused at Whitechurch spurred Patria's federal government to action.

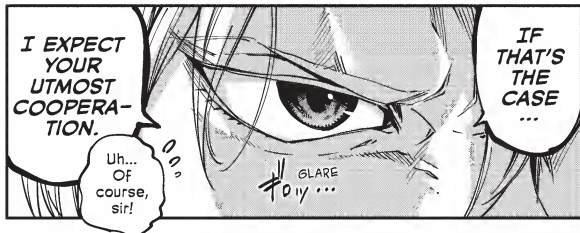
TO
AVENGE
THE
WORLD.

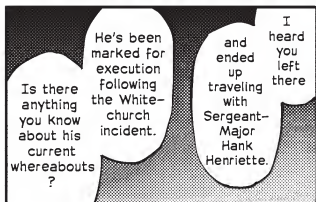
A
HUMAN
SQUAD
THAT
HUNTS
BEASTS

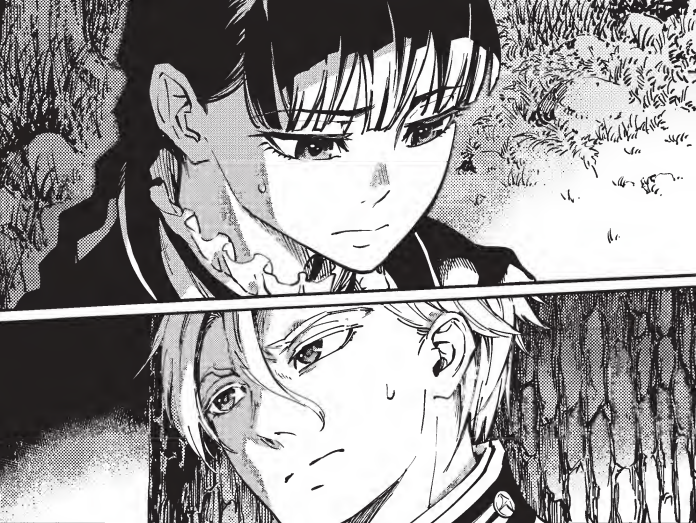
COUP DE
GRACE,
THE
INCARNATE
EXECUTION
SQUAD

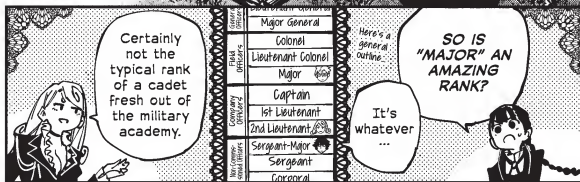


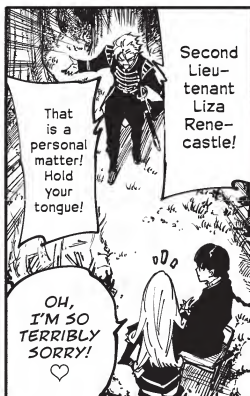
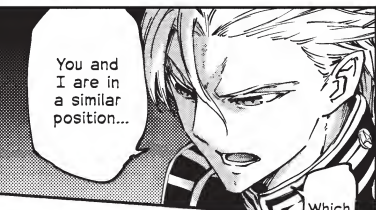


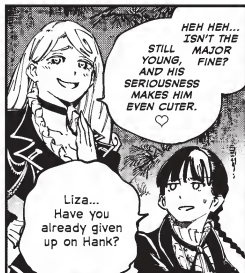














captured
and
killed...

He
might
get

They
say
Hank's
a target
for
execution
...

Are
you
okay
with
that?



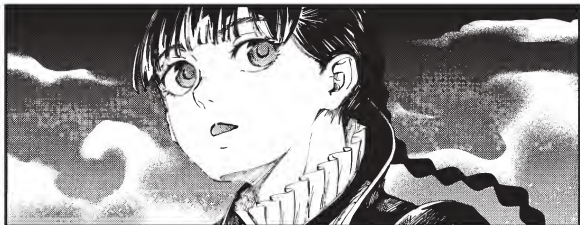
There's
no way
they'd be
able to take
him down
that easily,
right?

He'll
be
fine.



there's
no way
I'll let
them kill
him.

And
besides
...













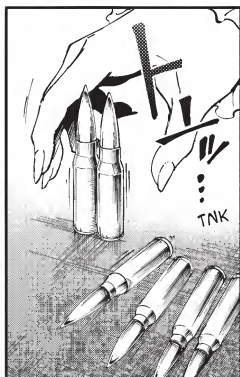
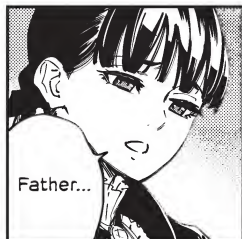
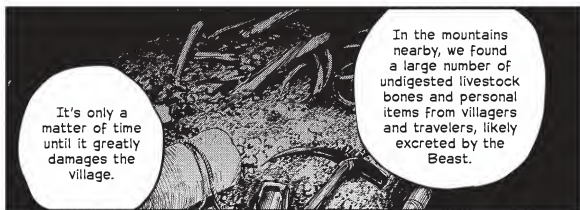
No
need
to give
chase!



Deploy
the
trap.
We'll
snare
this
one.

It'll
take
more
than
that to
kill it.



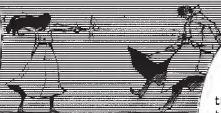




**GOD-
KILLER
ROUNDS.**

The
same
ones
Hank
used.

That's
probably why
Hank only
used them
to deal the
finishing
blow...



We
extracted the
ones we found
in Hank's body
after the war,
analyzed their
composition,
and created
replicas.

They're a
far cry from
the originals, but
they're effective
if you bury them
deep enough in
an Incarnate.



*take
these
bullets
with
you.*

*If
you're
going
to come
with us,
Schaal...*

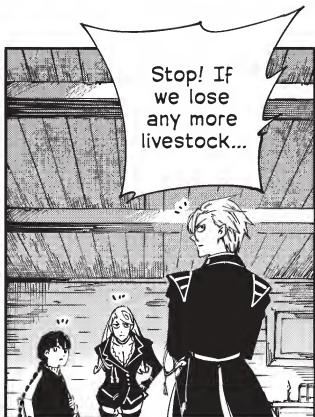


*We told
you we'll
compen-
sate you
for what
we use!*

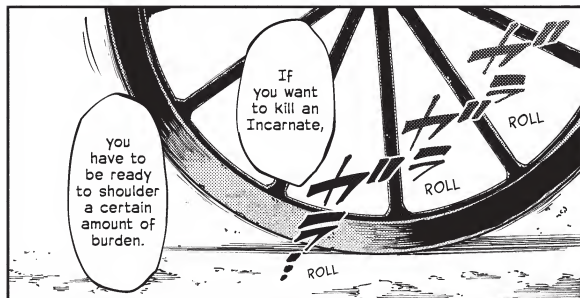


*It's not
enough!*

*You're
putting us
through
hell...!*



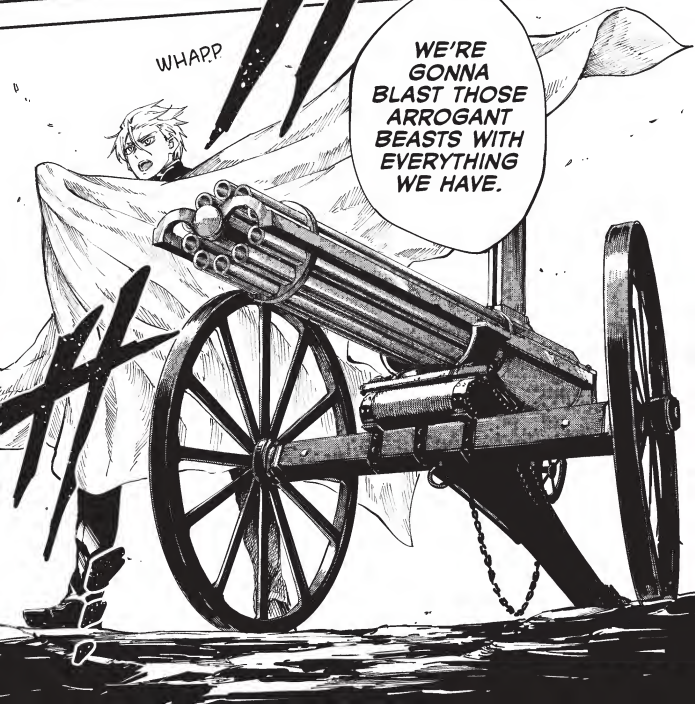
*Stop! If
we lose
any more
livestock...*



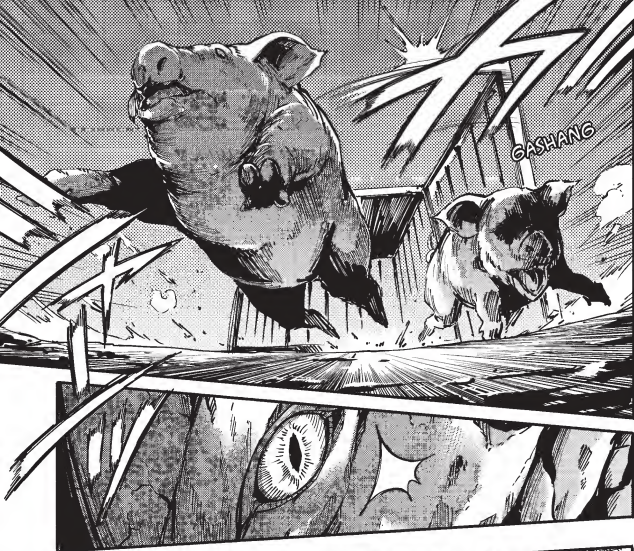


WHAPP

WE'RE
GONNA
BLAST THOSE
ARROGANT
BEASTS WITH
EVERYTHING
WE HAVE.





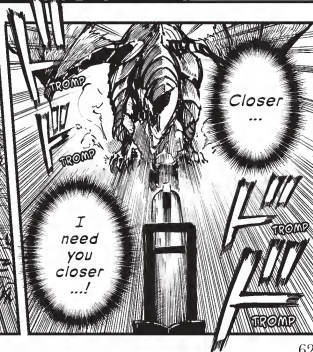
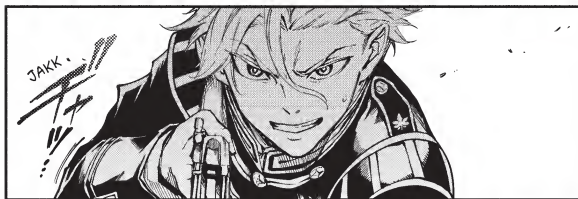


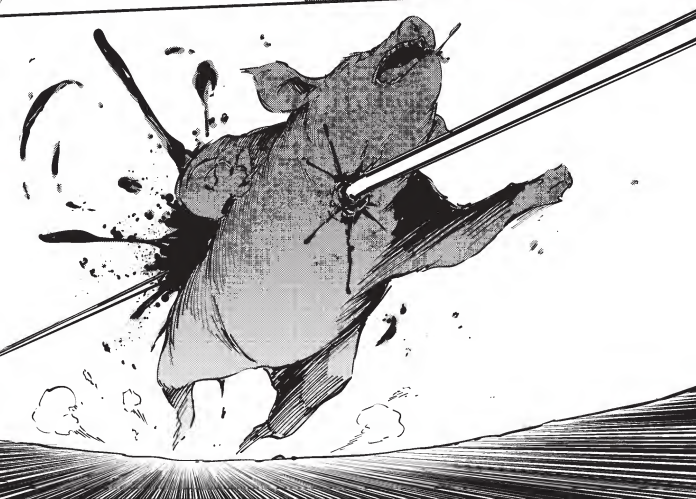
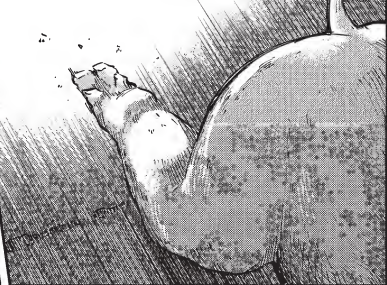
Don't
worry
about
killing
it!

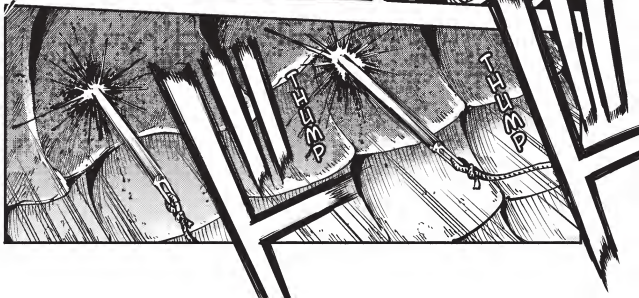
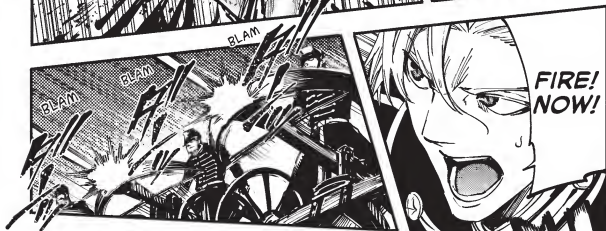
Just
lure
it
to
the
village
gates!

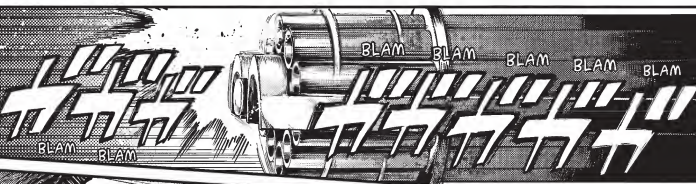
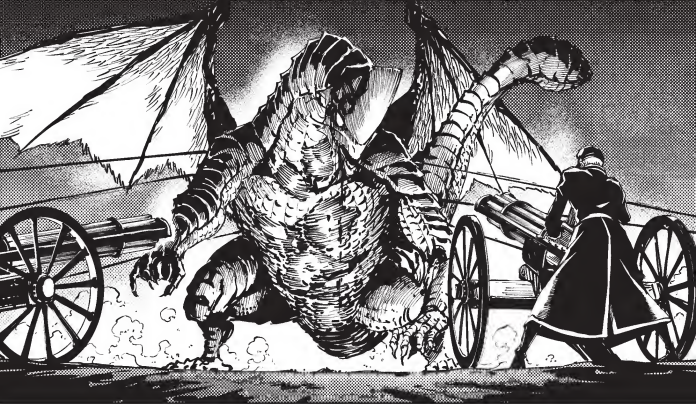


Gain
more
dis-
tance
!











it won't
save you
if you're
blown to
smithereens.

No matter
how
powerful
your
life-force
may be,



Countless
Incarnates
fell on the
battlefield.

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

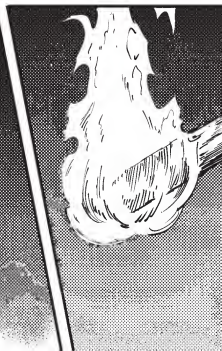
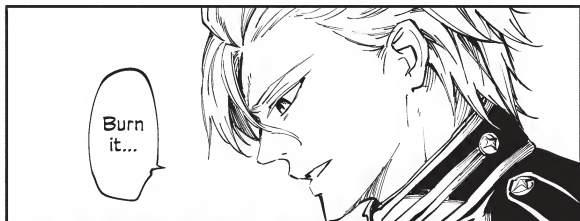
It's
not that
humans
have no
hope of
beating
them...

We
merely
lacked
resolve.

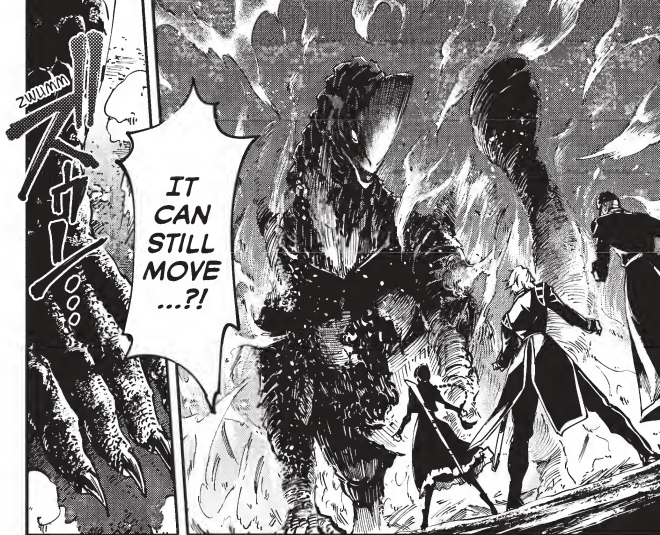


We
need the
resolve to
acknowledge
our mistake
in ever
calling them
"heroes."

ZWUBBMM









Dammit,
Schaal!
Why did
you ever
come
back...?!

And
why did
you bring
your father
here in
the first
place...?!



You're the
daughter
of a
murderer
...

You're
a blood-
soaked,
filthy
little

Angel
of
Death
!!



**YOU
IRRE-
SPON-
SIBLE
PIECES
OF
TRASH
...!**

**YOU
MISERABLE
BASTARDS
!!!**

**HAVE
YOU
NO
SHAME
...?!**

But
as soon
as you
saying
it would
have
been
better
if he
never
returned
from the
war?

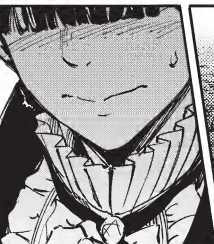
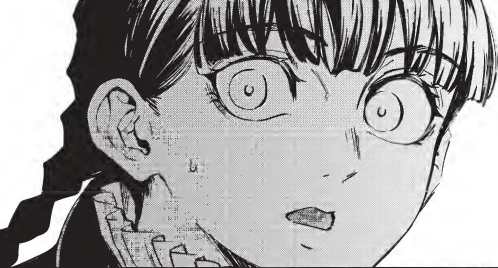
That
Incarnate
is from
this
village,
yes?

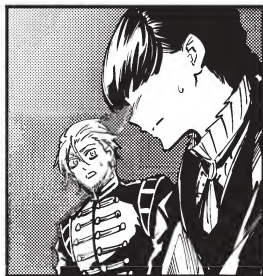
They
paid you
plenty in
compensa-
tion, didn't
they?



Do not
forget
that.

It was
humans'
weakness,
our blind
grabs at
power, that
brought them
to life.

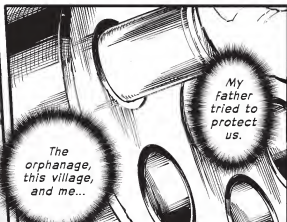






But
he's
lost his
mind.

He's
destroying
everything
he holds
dear.



My
father
tried to
protect
us.

The
orphanage,
this village,
and me...



No. He
wouldn't
...

Would
Hank
overlook
this?



HE
DOES
IT TO
PROTECT
THEIR
HOPES.

THAT'S
RIGHT.
THAT'S
WHY
HE
KILLS
THEM.

STOP
...!

STOP
...



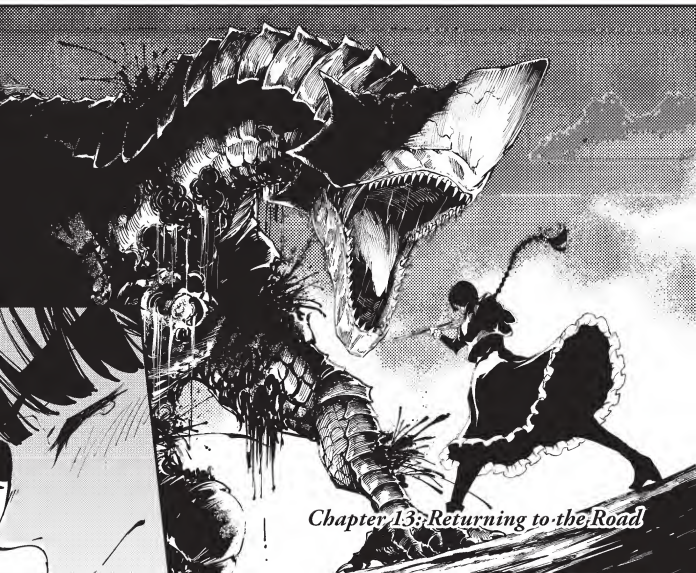


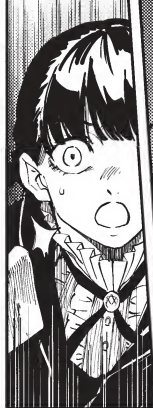
PLEASE... STOP!!!





To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

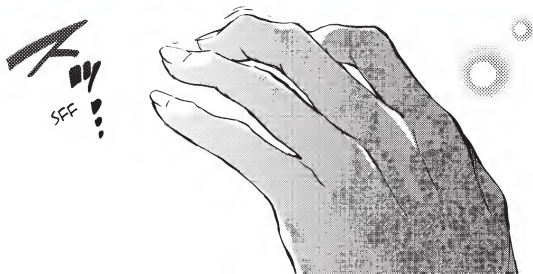
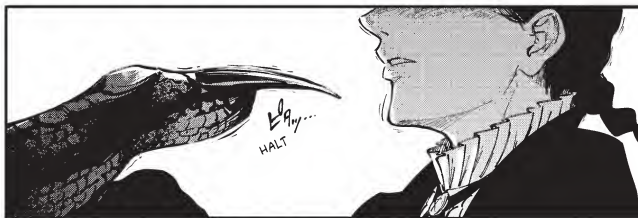
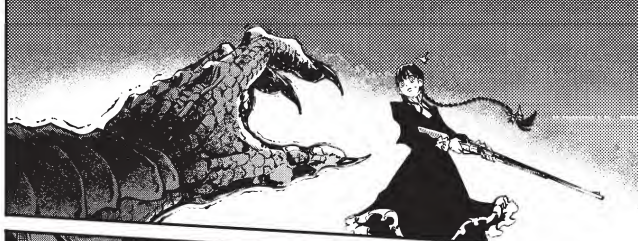


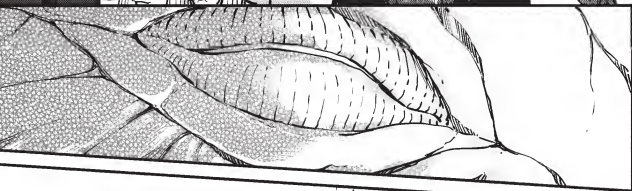
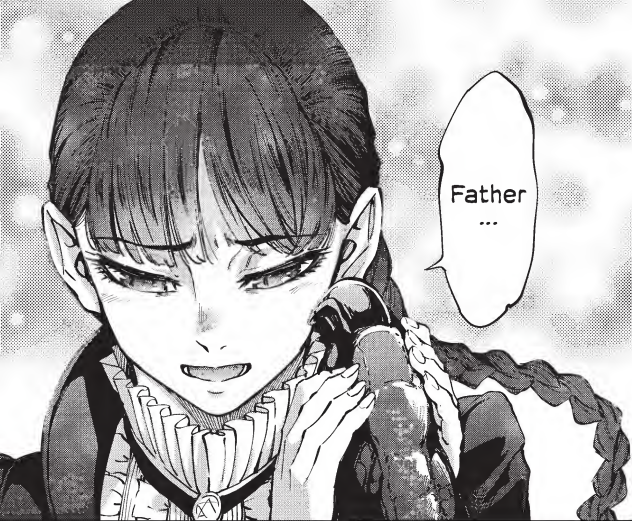




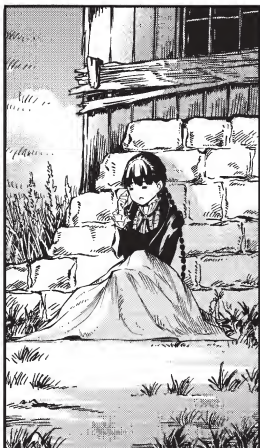
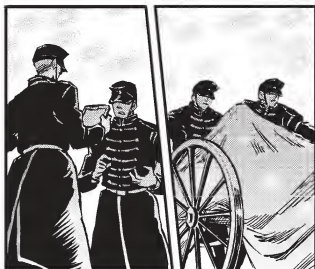


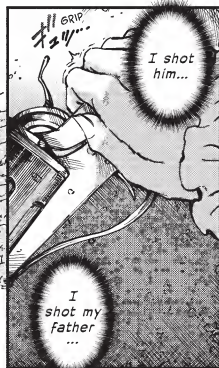
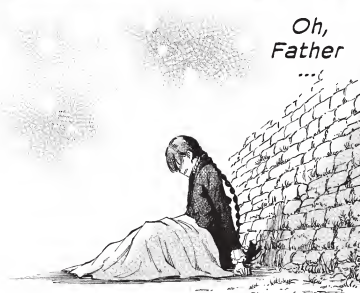
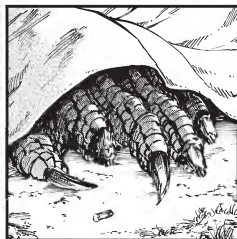
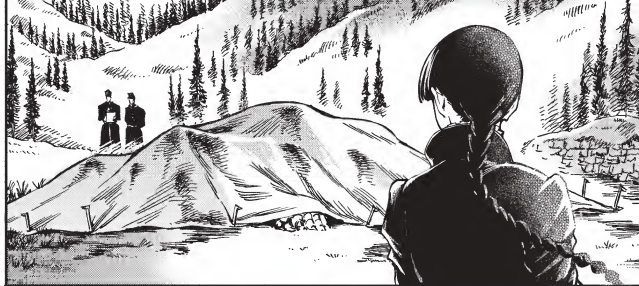


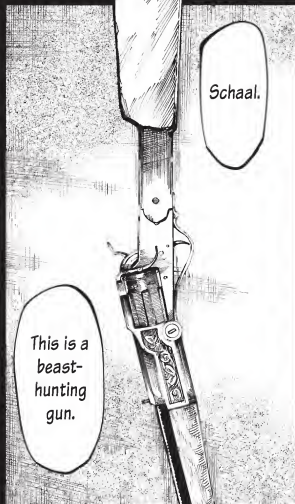


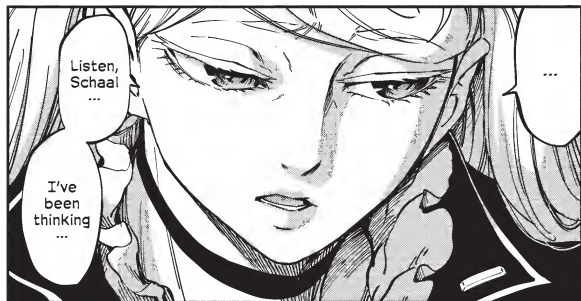
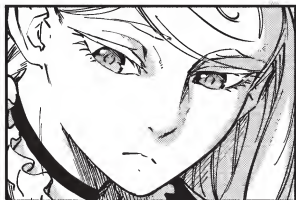
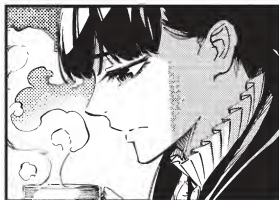
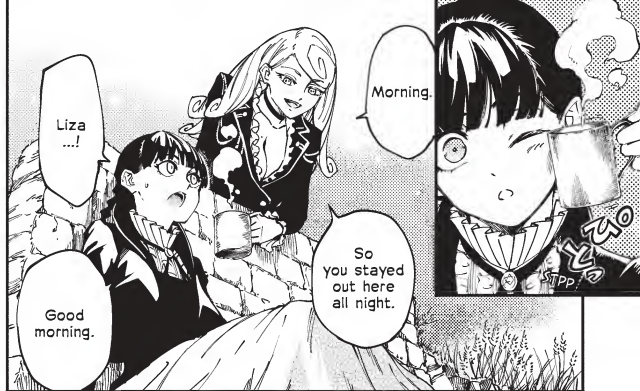






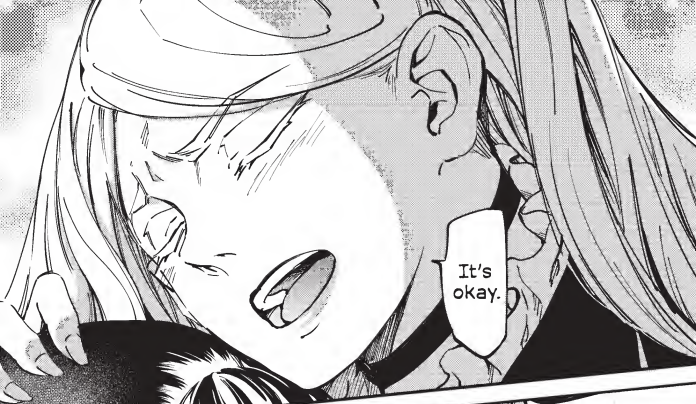


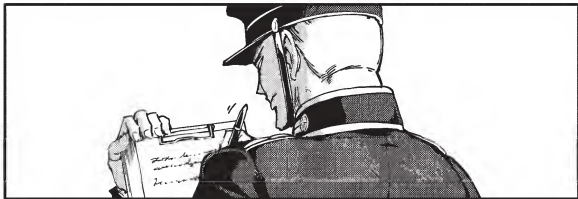


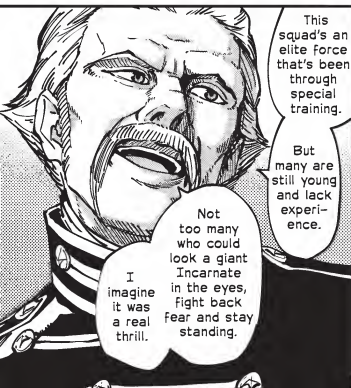
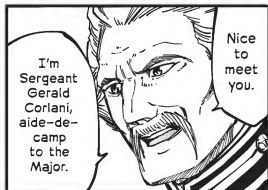














A duty to determine
how
to deal
with the
remaining
powerful
Incarnates.

We may
have
survived
the war
and
achieved
peace,
but
we still
have a
duty we
need to
fulfill.



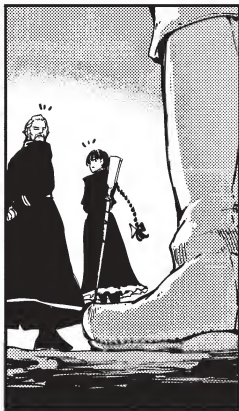
But ...
we have
irreplaceable
things of
our own to
protect.

I feel a
sympathy
and
compassion
for them.
We're
fellow
soldiers,
after
all.

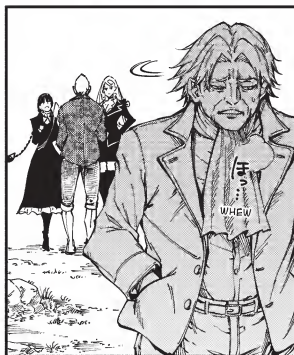
There are
all sorts
of people
in this
squad.

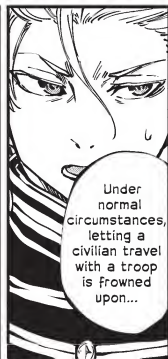
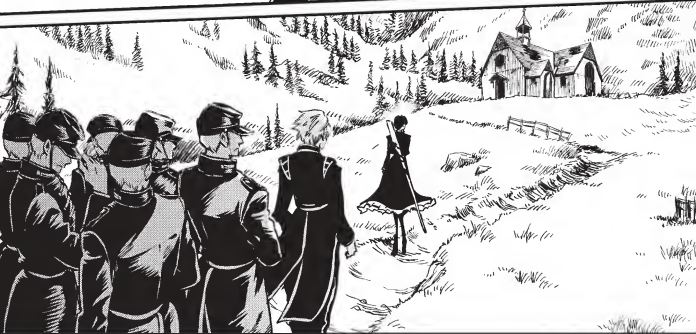
People
who call
Whitechurch
home.

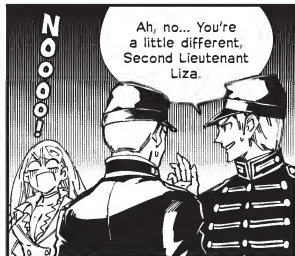
People
whose
villages were
saved by
Incarnates.

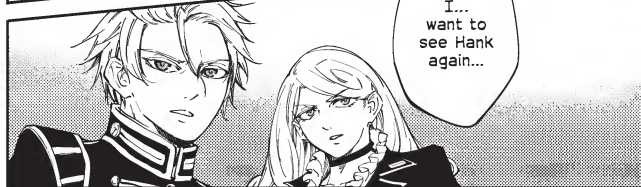
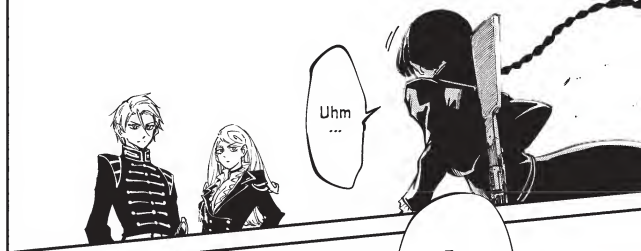












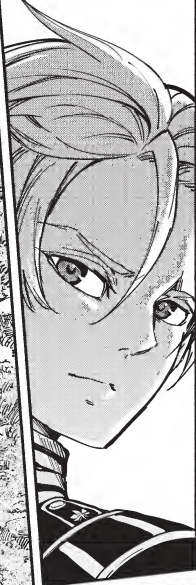


Sergeant-
Major
Hank
Henriette
...

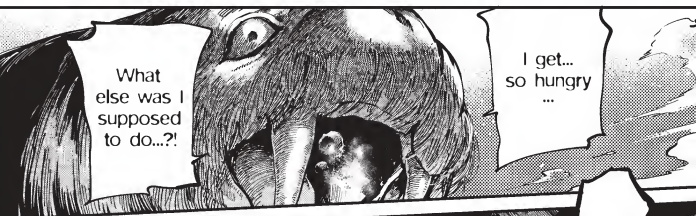
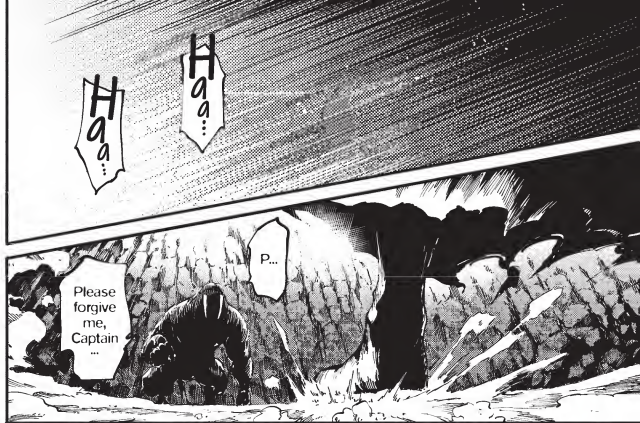
We've
received
reports that
he's been
sighted
with other
Incarnates
in the
North.

Travel with us,
the Incarnate
Extermination
Squad,

and
you'll
likely
encounter
him
soon.

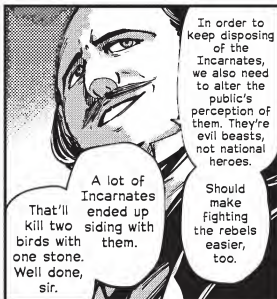
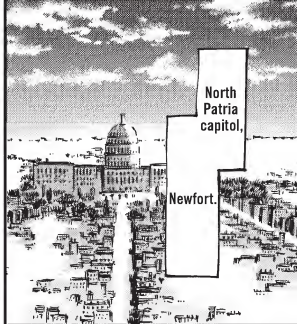
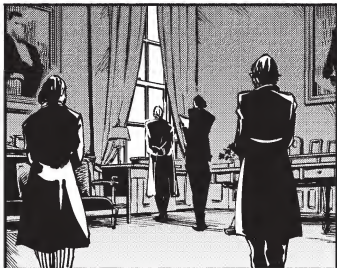


Right
....!





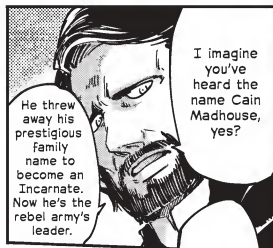






Have
Coup
de Grace
continue
their
mission.

We need
to kill
as many
Beasts as
possible
before
the war
begins.



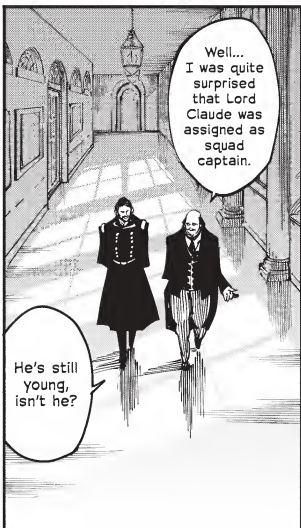
He threw
away his
prestigious
family
name to
become an
Incarnate.
Now he's the
rebel army's
leader.

I imagine
you've
heard the
name Cain
Madhouse,
yes?



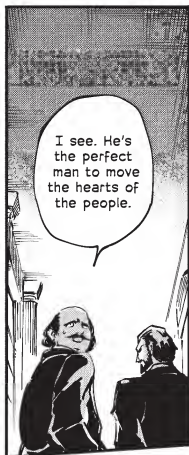
Good-
ness...

His
original
name...
is Cain
Withers.



Well...
I was quite
surprised
that Lord
Claude was
assigned as
squad
captain.

He's still
young,
isn't he?



I see. He's
the perfect
man to move
the hearts of
the people.



AND
NOW
HIS
YOUNGER
BROTHER
MUST
KILL
HIM.

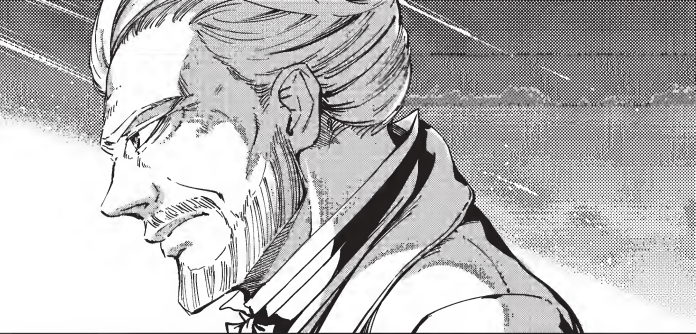
ONE
BROTHER
WARPED
INTO A
DEMON,
RAISING
THE
FLAG OF
REBELLION
AGAINST
HIS
COUNTRY,

I
PITY
THEM
...



is a
terrifying
man.

President
Richard
Withers

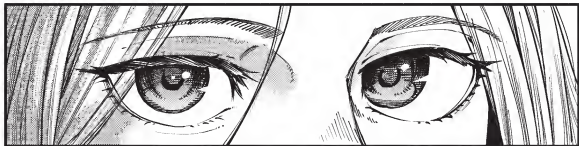


Claude
...

Do
your
best

to
carry
out
your
duty.

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts



*we
live in
an era
that
loves
music.*

*Once
more*



*But
it's
still
a far
cry
from
that
era...*

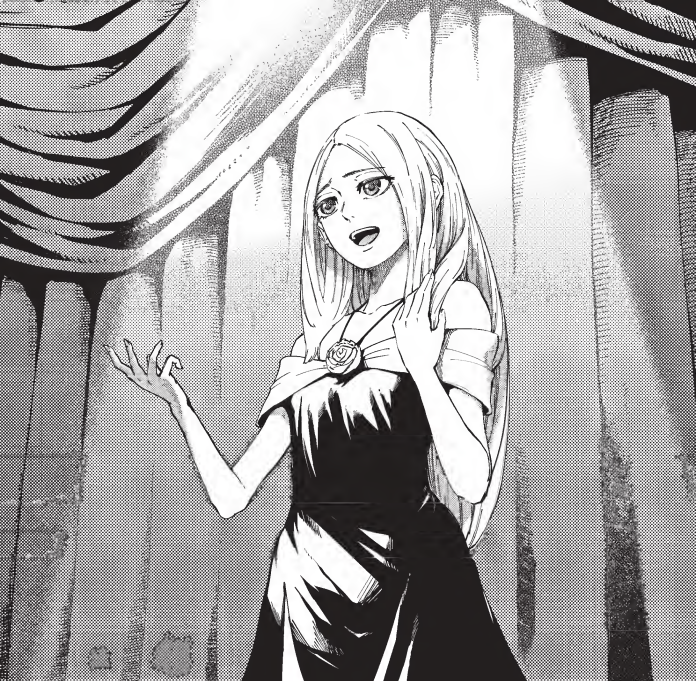
*I'm
thrilled.*

*Chapter 14: Songstress of Sleep
(Part 1)*

*have
long
since
faded.*

*The
cheers
once
lavished
upon
me*

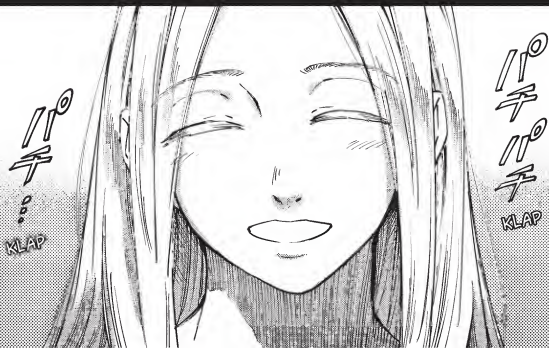
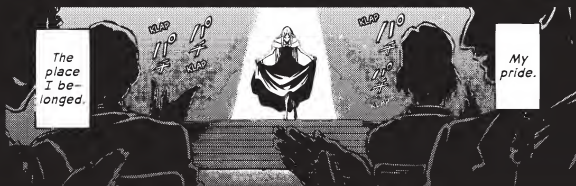
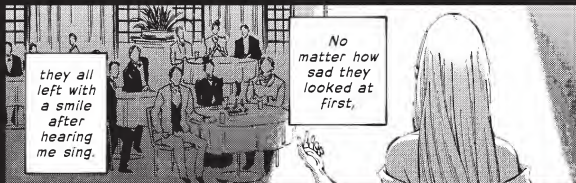
SPLASH

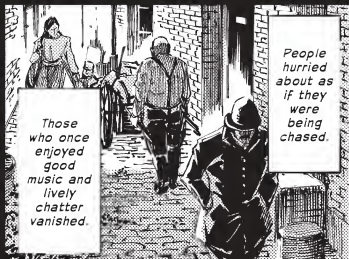


I had an
audience
that
listened,
enraptured,
applauding
and
cheering
for me.

On the
sparkling
stage,







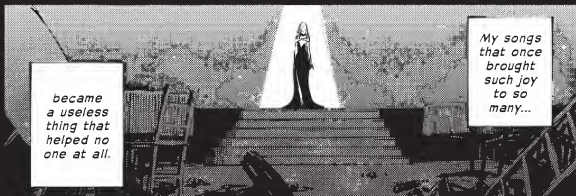
*Those
who once
enjoyed
good
music and
lively
chatter
vanished.*

*People
hurried
about as
if they
were
being
chased.*



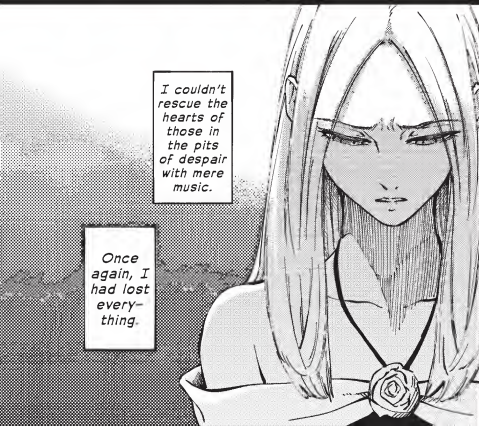
*The
city
changed.*

*Then
came
the
war.*



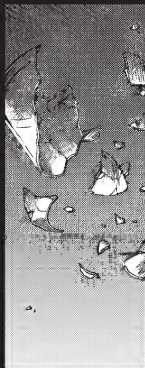
*became
a useless
thing that
helped no
one at all.*

*My songs
that once
brought
such joy
to so
many...*



*I couldn't
rescue the
hearts of
those in
the pits
of despair
with mere
music.*

*Once
again, I
had lost
every-
thing.*





*Then
he*

*told
me I
had the
power
to end
the war.*

*Or
so he
said.*



*Not
something
simply
gained
by wishing
for it.*

*Mine
was a
special
power.*

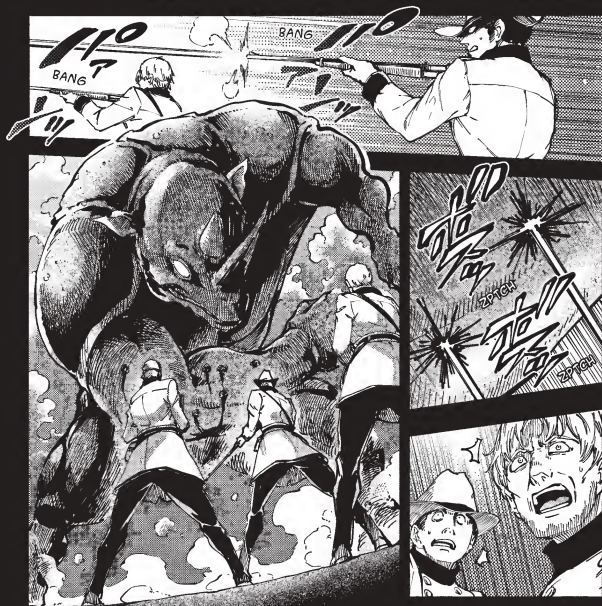


FLAP

*A
power
that,
once
used,
could
never be
undone.*

I hated
that era
in which
there
was no music.

But
even so,
I still
decided
to go to
war.





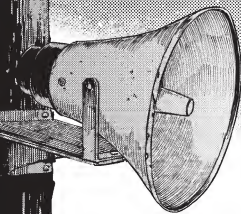
FLAPP

Thank
you,
Danny.

*I
killed*

*many
people
on the
battle-
field.*





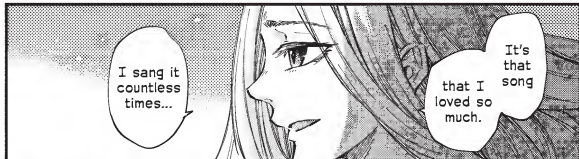
*Sing
a song
with me 'til
the early
morn...*

*So that
I might see
him once
more...*

*Take the
rope and
pull that
boat
ashore
...*



This
song
...

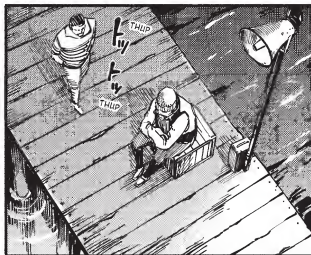


I sang it
countless
times...

It's
that
song
that I
loved so
much.



So?
How'd
it go?





They want
our boats
out of the
bay in two
days
so
military
freighters
can come
in.

No good.
They won't
listen to
a word
I say.



It hasn't
even been
a decade
since the
last one...

Those
damn
politicians
want
another
war...?



Our kids
are finally
old enough
to become
apprentices
and start
working,
and yet...

A lot
of young
folk died
in the
last war.

now they're
gonna take
everything
away from us
again...?

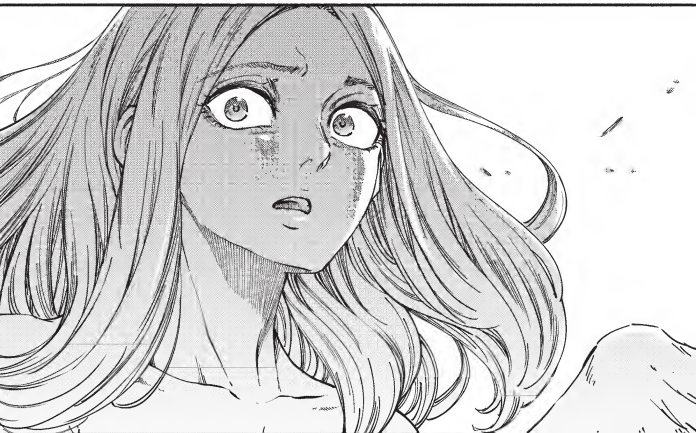


They're
scared
of a
rebellion.

I hear
Incarnates
are getting
killed left
and right.

This
is very
serious.

They're
the heroes
of the
nation...





Right.

vanished
during
the war.

That
girl who
sang it



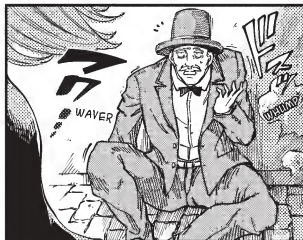
This song
certainly
brings back
memories...

Yeah,
this girl at
my old bar
sang it...

*Sing
a song
with me 'til
the early
morn...*

*Take the
rope and
pull that
boat
ashore...*

*So that I
might see
him once
more...*



I
knew
it...

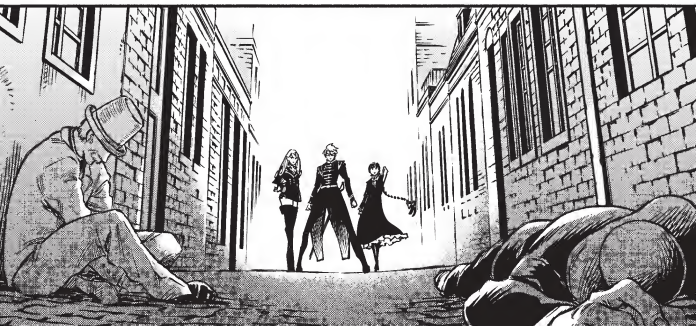
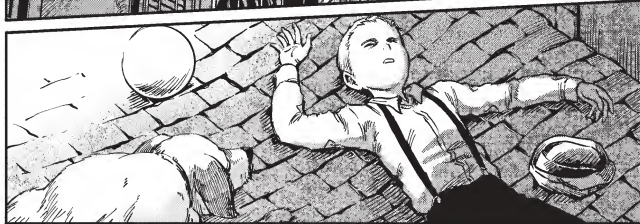
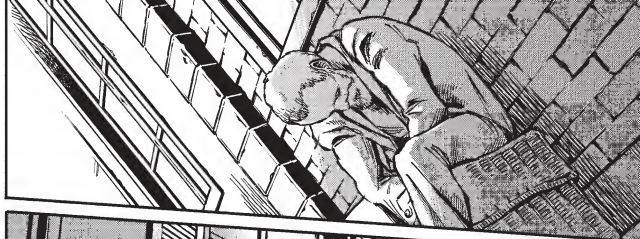
It's
her
...

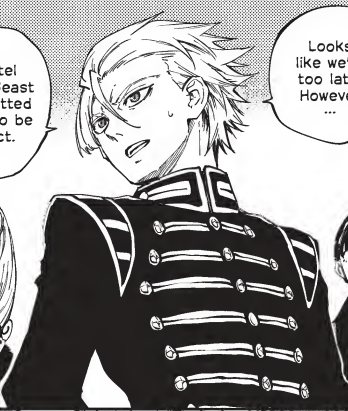


Well,
wouldja
look at
that...

She's
back
...

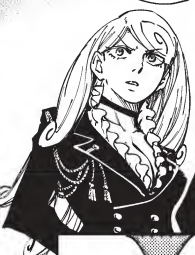






the intel
that a Beast
was spotted
seems to be
correct.

Looks
like we're
too late.
However
...



WE
LOST
TRACK OF HER
AFTER
THE WAR,
BUT IT
SEEMS
THAT SHE
CAME
BACK TO
THIS
CITY.

SHE
USES HER
SPECIAL
SINGING TO
LULL
ENEMIES
TO SLEEP
AND THEN
KILLS
THEM.

IT HAS
TO BE
HER.

THE
INCARNATE
"SIREN."



Sir!

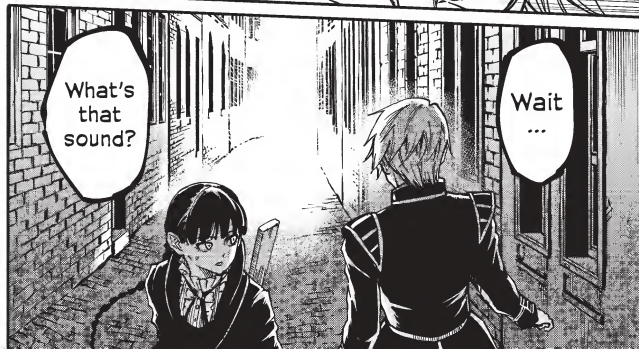
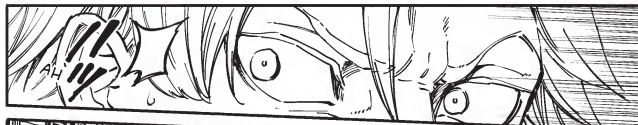
If they
encounter
an
Incarnate,
they have
permission
to
engage.

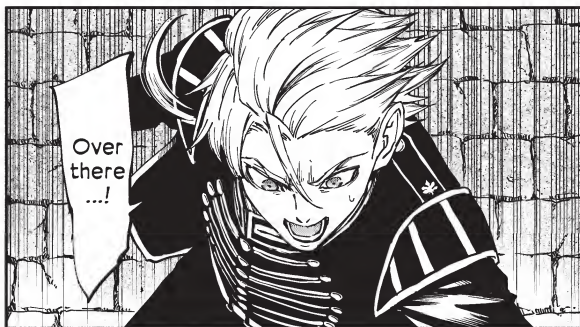
We
don't
need to
negotiate
with the
citizens.

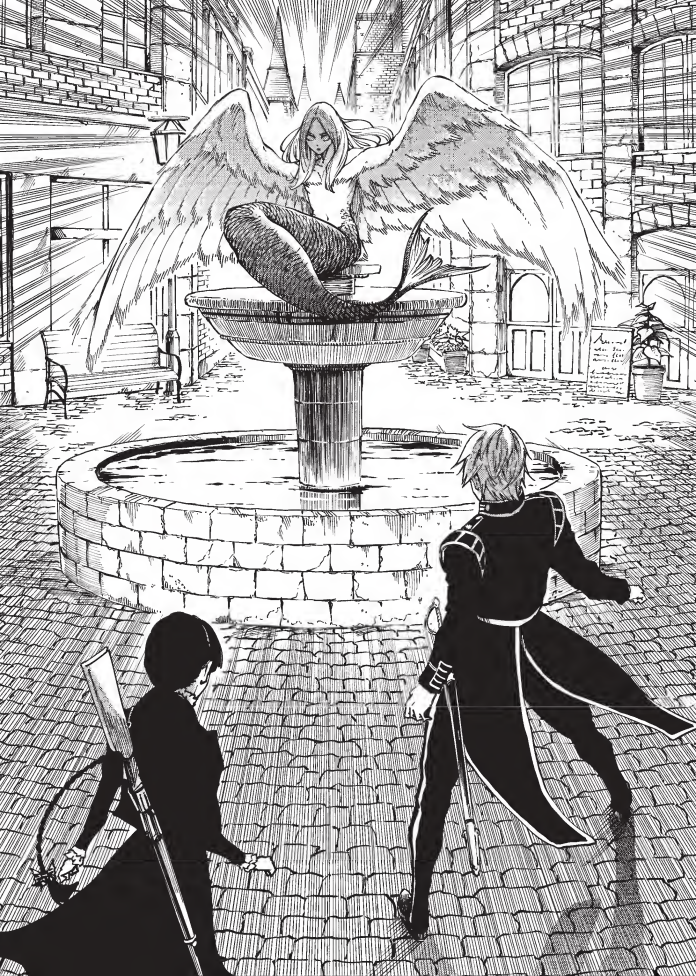
Have
them
deploy
in the
city at
once.

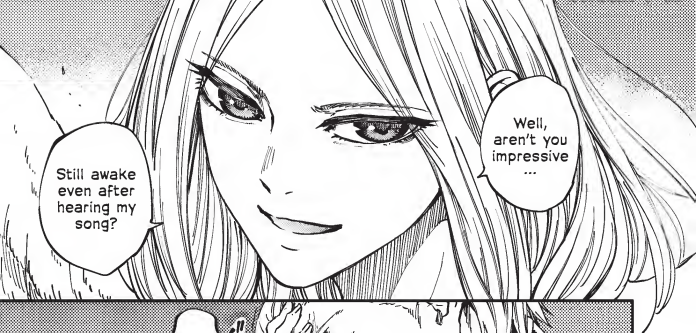


Report
back to
the
squad.









Still awake
even after
hearing my
song?

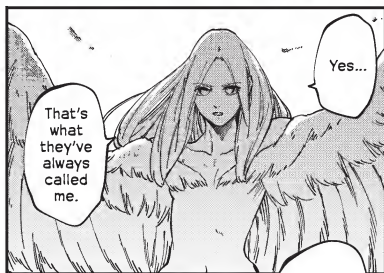
Well,
aren't you
impressive
...



is
foggy
...

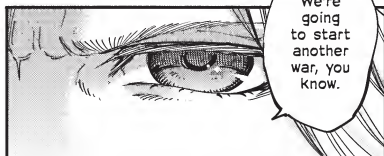
My
mind
...

SHOCK



That's
what
they've
always
called
me.

Yes...

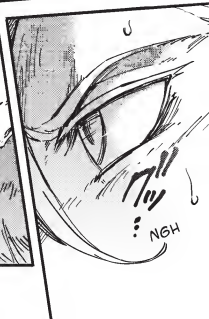
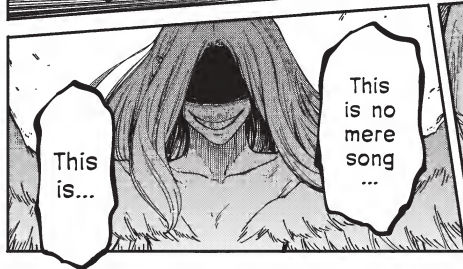


We're
going
to start
another
war, you
know.

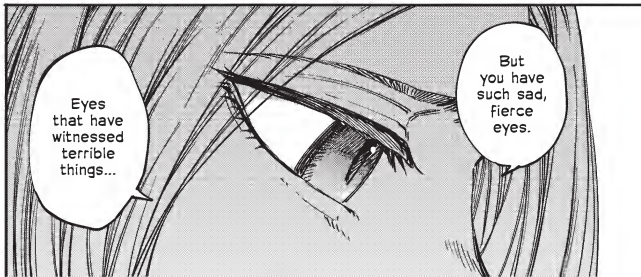
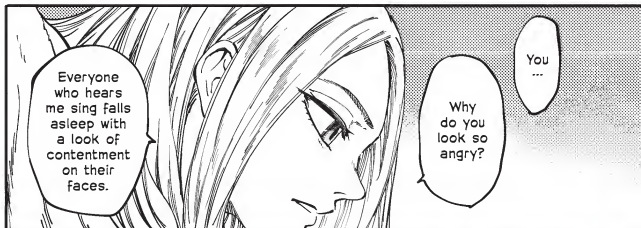


You're
...

Siren
?











Your
eyes
tell me
every-
thing.

....!



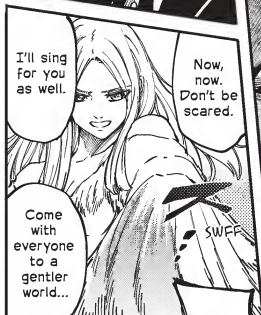
And
now...
I'm going
to use my
voice

to
lead
every-
one...
heh
heh...

to
salva-
tion...

My song
stirs the
heart.

It
leads all
who hear
to a gentle
slumber
free from
uncertainty
and fear.



I'll sing
for you
as well.

Now,
now.
Don't be
scared.

Come
with
everyone
to a
gentler
world...

SWFF



I...
cannot
die
here!

No
!

Won-
derful,
isn't
it?

There's
no
cheering
crowds,
no
applause.
But this
stage is
only for
me.

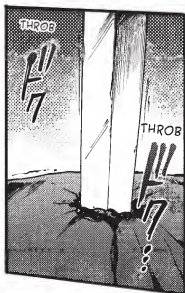
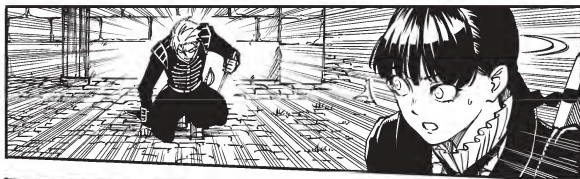
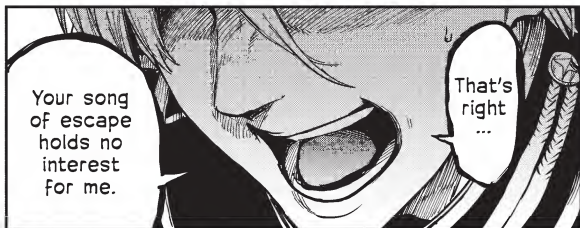


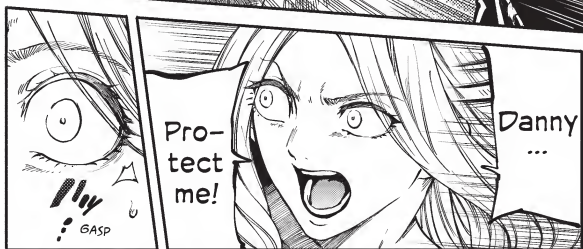


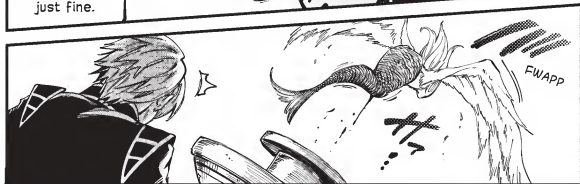
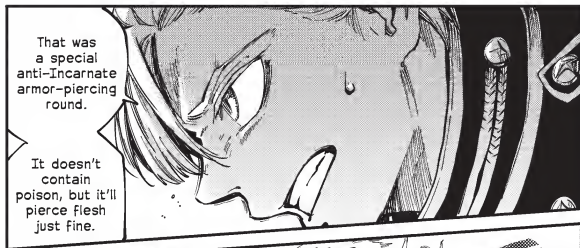
**AND I
ABSO-
LUTELY**

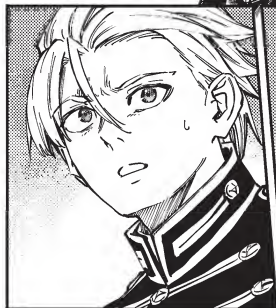
...

**DON'T
WANT
TO
HEAR
YOU
SING
!**









The
Incarnates...
They've all
had to throw
something
away.

She
was in
despair.





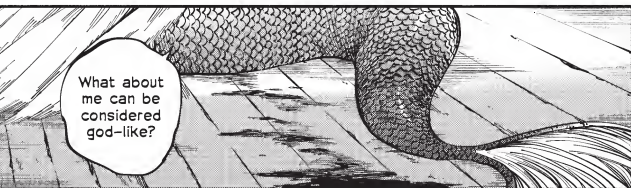
When she
became an
Incarnate

I
have
to tell
her

what a
terrible
mistake
this is!

she must
have had
to throw
her hopes
away, too.

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

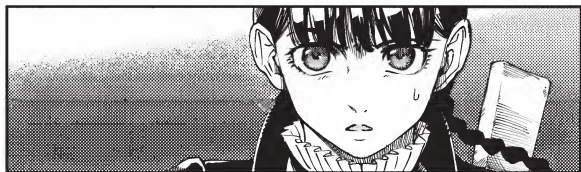
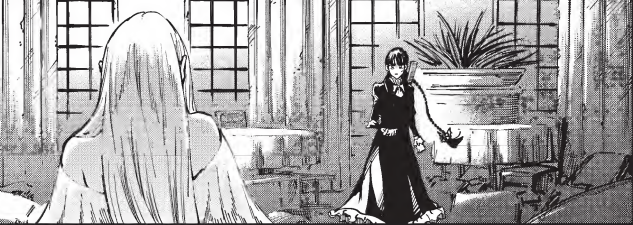


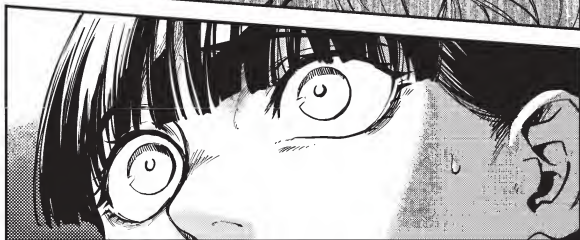
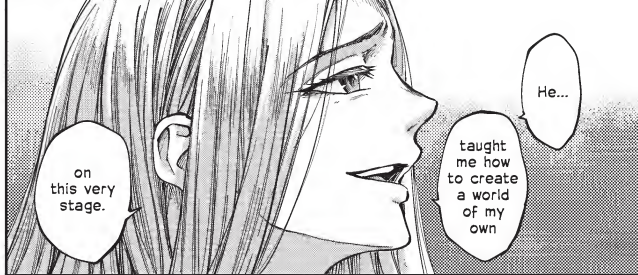


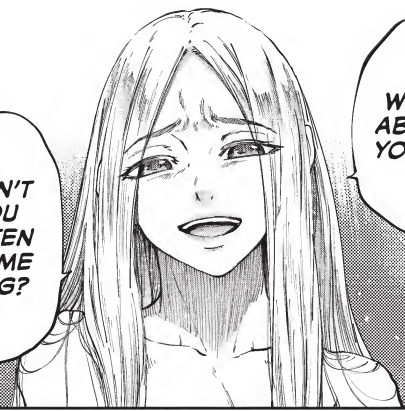
This is
where

I
performed.

Chapter 15:
Songstress of Sleep (Part 2)







WON'T
YOU
LISTEN
TO ME
SING?

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU...?

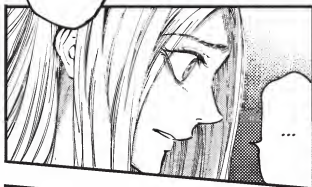


My
name is
Nancy
Schaal
Bancroft.

...

Daughter
of Nidhogg...
Incarnate
soldier
John William
Bancroft.

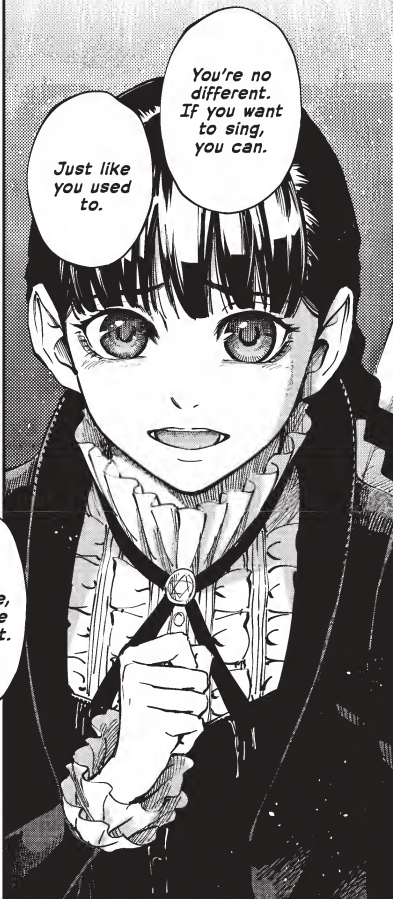
!





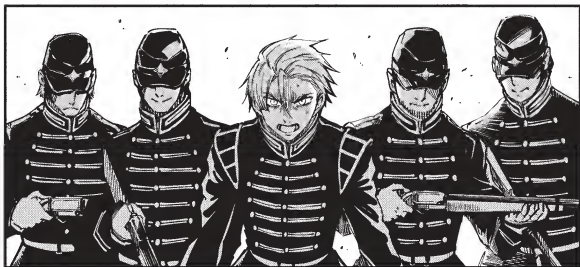
*Let me
hear you
sing.*

*So
please,
let me
hear it.*

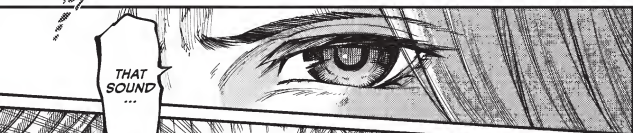


*Just like
you used
to.*

*You're no
different.
If you want
to sing,
you can.*



That's
the
enemy
!



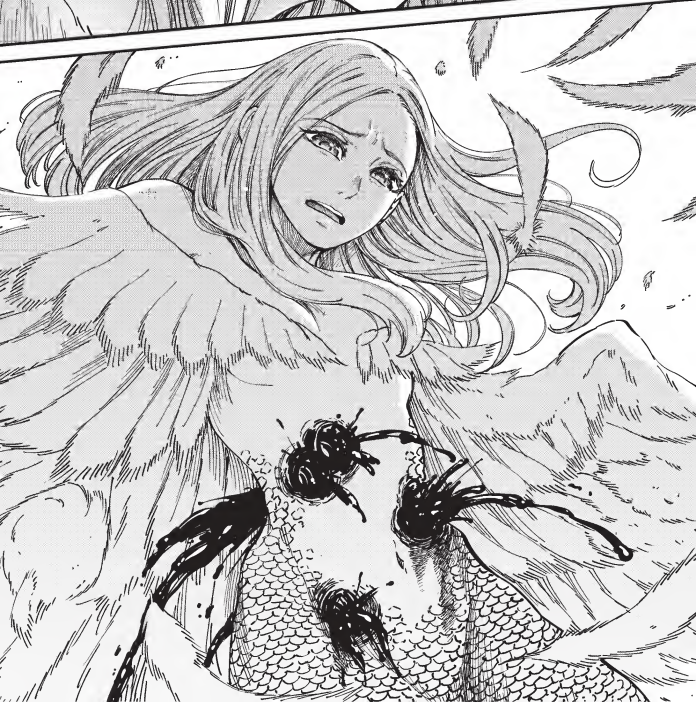
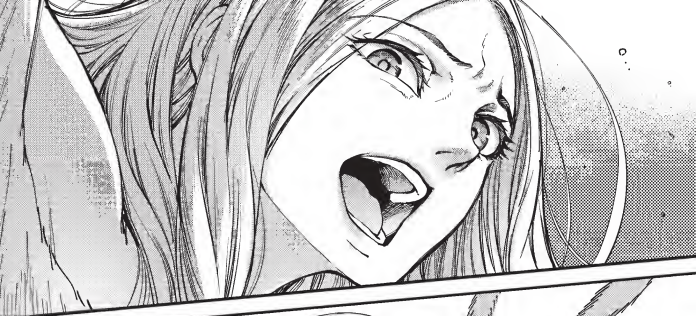
THAT
SOUND
...

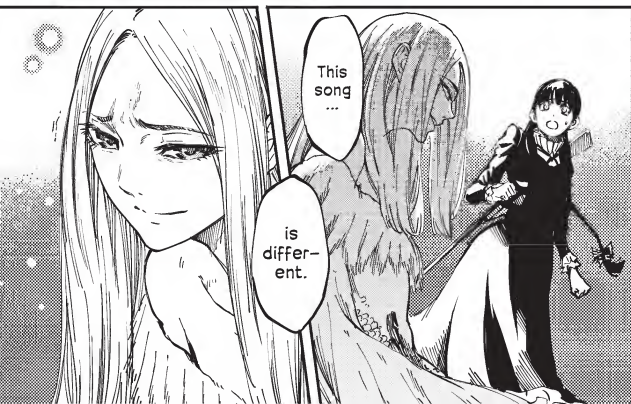
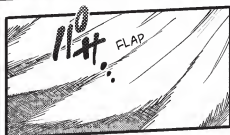
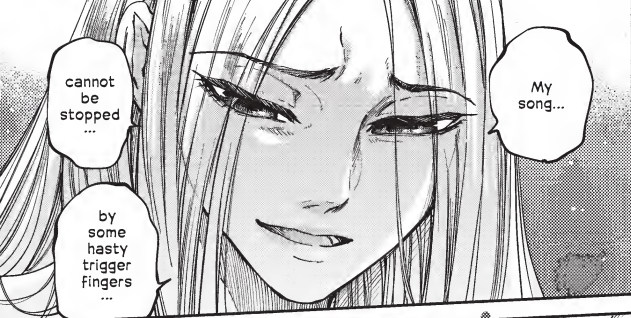


FROM
THE
BATTLE-
FIELD
!

I
KNOW
THAT
HATE-
FUL
SOUND
...







*On a
distant
shore...*

*That I am
waiting
for him...*

*The
foghorn
tells him
all he
needs to
know...*

*Take
the rope
and pull
that boat
ashore...*

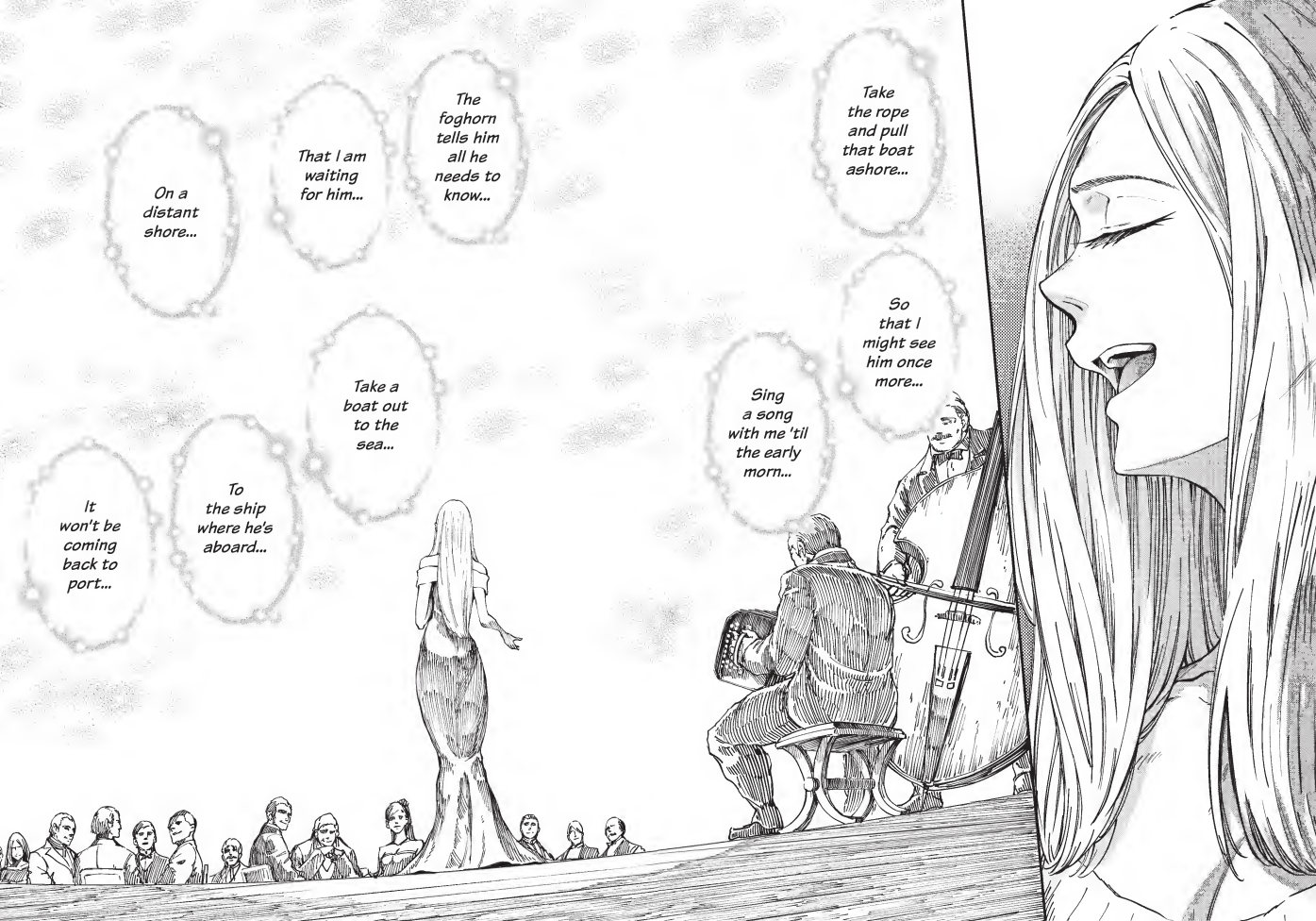
*So
that I
might see
him once
more...*

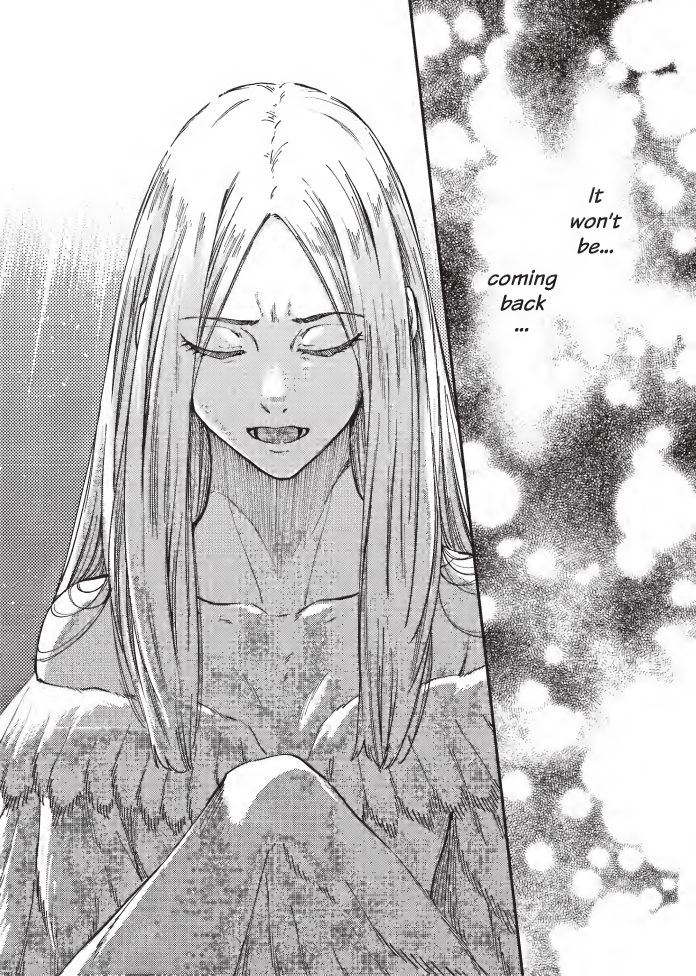
*Sing
a song
with me 'til
the early
morn...*

*Take a
boat out
to the
sea...*

*It
won't be
coming
back to
port...*

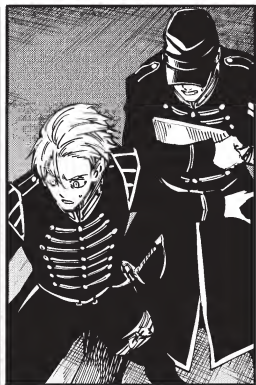
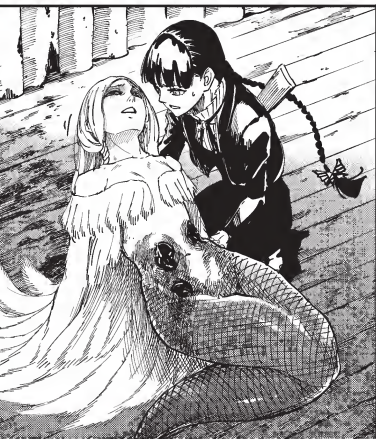
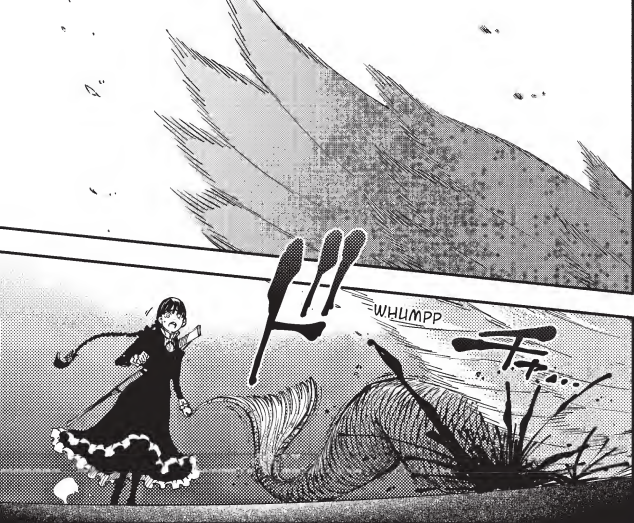
*To
the ship
where he's
aboard...*

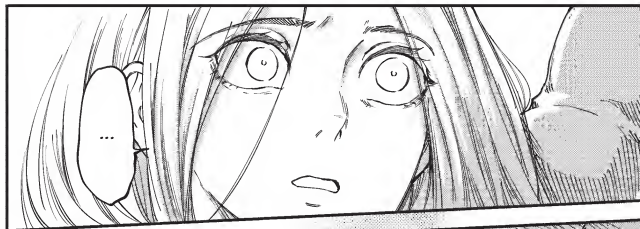
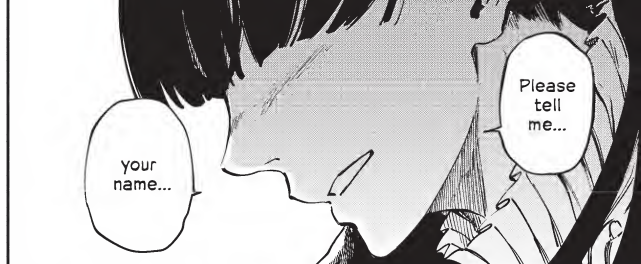




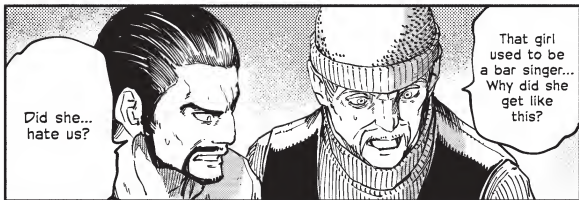
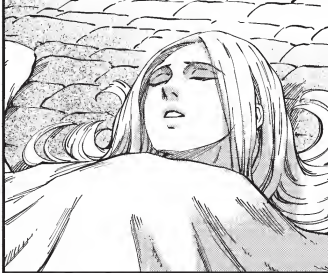
It
won't
be...

coming
back
...











We're not
like him...
like Hank
Henriette.

That's why
Coup de
Grace was
formed.



But
once we
find him, his
life is forfeit,
no matter
who tries to
stop us.

I
don't know
what you
think of that
supposed
Beast
Hunter...



Do not
forget
that.

...

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

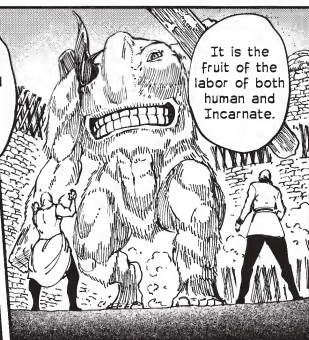


The
fortress is
magnificent,
sir.



Such
awesome
power... And
the North
is trying to
eliminate
them?

I am
astounded
by their
foolishness.



It is the
fruit of both
human and
Incarnate.



Sir
Cain
...?

Are we
not simply
giving them
too much time
to prepare
an army,



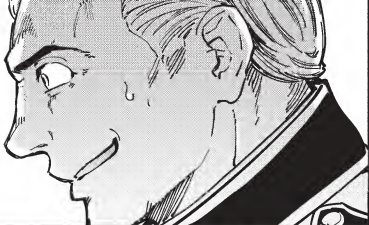
One
question
remains...

Why didn't
the army
advance into
the North right
after the coup
d'état?



There's
a common
misconception.

We
Incarnates
are actually
quite weak.



You
jest...



Heh
heh.

That's why
the last war
ended in
such hollow
peace.

We
could never
stand against
an army
hundreds of
thousands
strong.

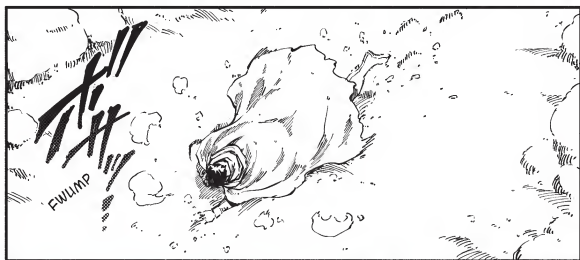
No matter
how much
god-like power
we possess,
our numbers
are few.

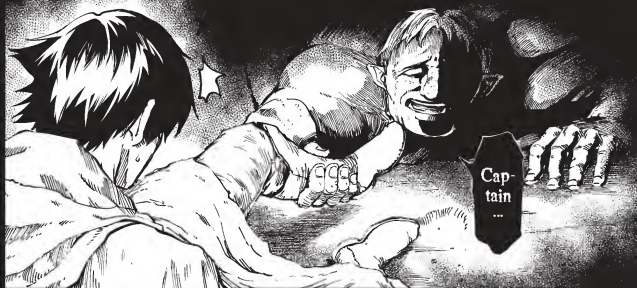


*the
time
is now
at
hand.*

*But
...*









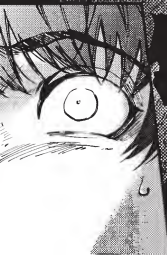
You
aren't
on the
side of
justice.

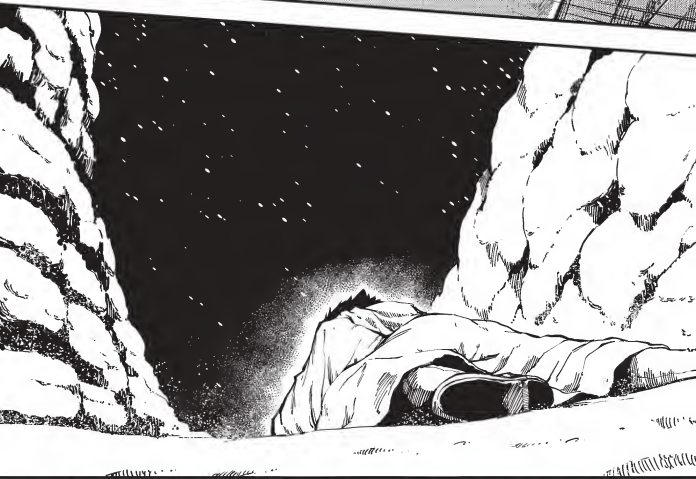
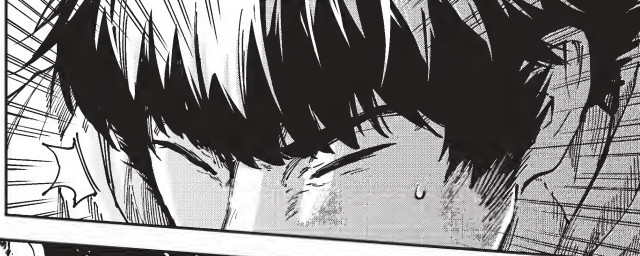
Captain.

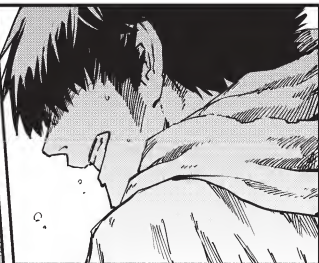
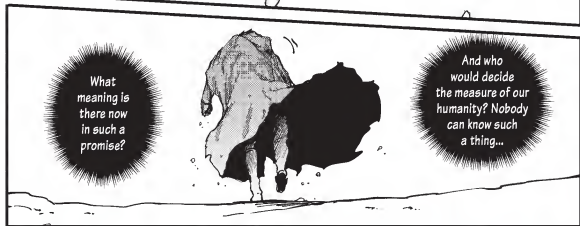
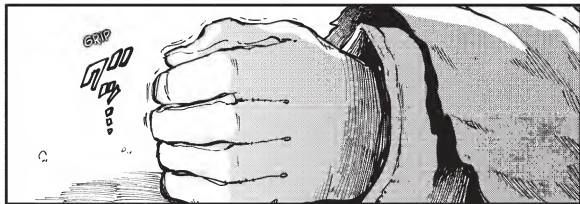


I
didn't
want
to
die!!

I
don't
wanna
end up
like
them!



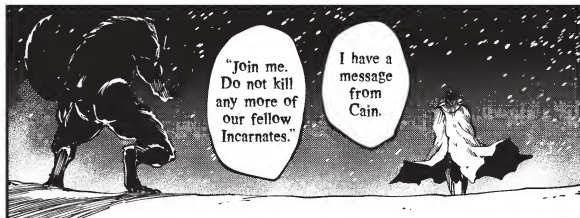






I've
been
awaiting
your
arrival
...

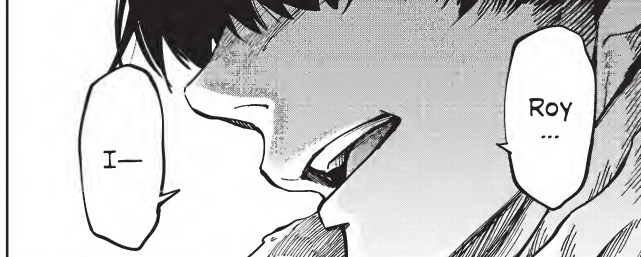
Ex-
Captain
Hank...



"Join me.
Do not kill
any more of
our fellow
Incarnates."

I have a
message
from
Cain.







It's
time
for
you
to die

...

H
A
N
K
!!!



I
am an
Incar-
nate
now

...

The
Incar-
nate
Garm
!!!



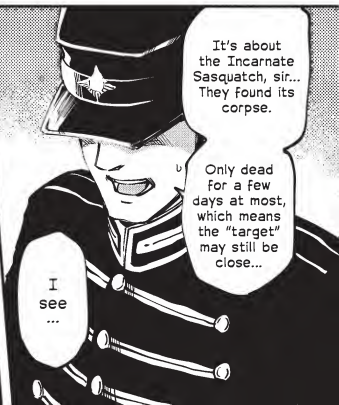
Major With-ers!

We just got a mes-sage ...



"Target" ?

You can't mean ...



It's about the Incarnate Sasquatch, sir... They found its corpse.

Only dead for a few days at most, which means the "target" may still be close...

I see ...



It appears
the Siren...
wasn't who
we should've
been looking
for.

we
anticipated
the target
would
eventually
make contact
with the
two nearby
Incarnates.

Based
on
witness
reports,



**Hank
Henri-
ette.**

**Our
next
target
is the
Incarnate
Werewolf
...**



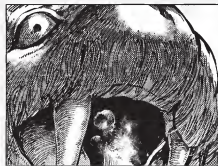
....!

Continued in Volume 4

Sacred Beasts

file no. 11 *Incarnate Sasquatch*

Height: 11½ ft.



A supremely powerful demihuman who lurks deep in the mountains.

Highly suited to covert operations in mountainous regions, the Sasquatch's well-balanced muscles and human feet make advancing through

rugged terrain easy, while its bristly coat of fur provides protection from gunfire.

In addition, the Sasquatch's subdermal fat layer provides excellent resistance to cold temperatures and allows for long periods of solo activity without support or supplies. The thickness of this fat layer can widely fluctuate, with the Sasquatch's weight sometimes shrinking in half following a particularly long operation.

Making use of these characteristics, the Sasquatch was frequently deployed as a stealth solo agent in mountainous regions to crush enemy reconnaissance forces and detachments. In spite of its exceptional ability to work covertly, it nonetheless left rare traces of its presence in the snowy mountainous regions. While its massive feet kept it from sinking into deep snowdrifts, it left behind footprints that were clearly not human. Those who came across these footprints imagined a creature of even greater size than the Sasquatch was, which planted seeds of terror in onlookers.

file no. 12 *Rivulet Wood*



A poor village nestled deep within a ravine.

A small village on a small stretch of flatland ensconced in sheer cliffs and deep valleys, Rivulet Wood was once a popular resting place for those braving the treacherous mountain passes during the wild frontier days. Following the discovery of alternate routes through the pass, however, the town's inhabitants have been forced to eke out a meager agrarian existence from

what little arable land there is.

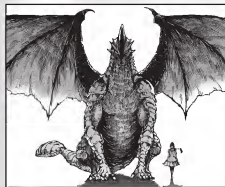
Within the village are the remains of a disproportionately large church building, built with donations from travelers wishing for a safe journey, but which became too much for the villagers to maintain on their own. Records show that outsiders ran an orphanage within the abandoned church at one point, but it's since been boarded up.

In recent years, war and lack of jobs have forced the village's younger population to leave, and Rivulet Wood is quietly slipping into decline.

Encyclopedia Entries

file no. 9 *Incarnate Nidhogg*

Height: 98 ft.



An undying dragon who witnessed the end and survived.

Gifted with a powerful, resilient body and inexhaustible life energy, the Nidhogg also possesses bullet-deflecting scales and muscular mobility far surpassing what its massive frame would suggest. Its total strength ranks among the highest of any Incarnate, making it the Northern forces' secret weapon.

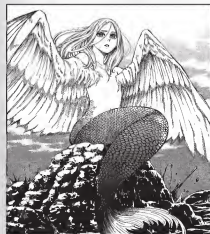
In open engagements, the Nidhogg's overwhelming defensive and destructive capabilities could shatter battle regiments, and its wings, small considering its massive frame, allow for short-term flight.

Its life-force far surpasses that of other Incarnates. On several occasions, the Incarnate has survived battles that left both armies in shambles.

If the Nidhogg has any weakness, it's an abnormal hunger. It requires vast amounts of food to maintain its incredible mobility and life-force, but one theory suggests there is also a latent desire that drives it to consume so much.

file no. 10 *Incarnate Siren*

Height: 8 ft.



A winged mermaid that lures seafarers with song.

A strange creature with the arms of a bird and a lower body resembling that of a fish, the Siren lulls its foes into a deathly slumber with the power of song.

Contrary to their grand appearance, the Siren's wings are incapable of providing steady flight; at best, they allow the Siren to hover for brief periods of time when traveling on land. Its heavily muscled lower body impedes flight, but enables astonishingly fast underwater movement in return.

The Siren's greatest strength, its "song," is created not by using its voice, but by vibrating its wings. Exactly how this sonic assault affects its victims is unclear, but it appears to directly affect the brain and nervous system, dulling the senses and eventually inducing a state similar to a swoon.

Although the Siren's song can cause devastating results over a wide area, its frail body is among the weakest of all the Incarnates, and a single gunshot can be fatal. For this reason, it is advisable to pair the Siren with a defensively-oriented Incarnate when on the battlefield, where it can be exposed to the line of fire.

file no. 15 Northern Union of Patria



The vainglorious leader of the young nation.

Colonization of the Patrian continent started on the northeast coast, making the Northern region the oldest and most so-

ried. This is where the heart of Patria's political economy beats, and the coastal regions are dotted with large port cities that serve as windows to foreign countries.

The North has many aristocrats descended from leaders who profited from the early colonists and moguls of industry who built their fortunes in the new land, both of which command wealth unlike anyone else in the world. Industrial titans seek to expand growth even further by monopolizing domestic demand through protective trade practices. However, the North depends almost entirely on the South for coal, iron, textiles and other recently discovered resources, with profits between the two sides remaining mutually exclusive.

file no. 16 Southern Confederation of Patria



The region that bared its fangs at the leadership.

A confederation of the main cities spread across the vast Southern region of the Patrian continent, the South boasts bountiful natural resources and high populations,

thriving agricultural and mining industries, and numerous large cities throughout the inner and coastal regions.

Southern business owners sought free trade with the Old World in order to increase exports of its vast stores of natural resources, but this led to an ideological conflict with the North. By the time war broke out, while the South was technologically disadvantaged, their superior access to resources allowed them to hold the upper hand until the appearance of the North's Incarnates.

The Incarnates' unbelievable strength turned the tides in an instant, and the resulting cease-fire left a sense of bitterness and resentment in part of the populace, some of whom would later join the Free Nation of New Patria, located in the western section of the continent.

file no. 13 Port Gulf



A port town whose glory has faded.

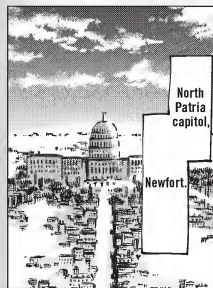
Blessed with natural features perfectly suited for a marine port, Port Gulf was a populous fishing village since time immemorial. Following the modernization of shipbuilding and the use of ships for material transportation, the town rapidly expanded into a hub for intercity transport.

During the Civil War, Port Gulf became a Patria Union base

and a target for the Southern forces which wrought destruction on the town. Already struggling to recover after the end of the war, the city was dealt another blow by the development of rail networks across the country. Its geographic placement was already inconvenient, and so Port Gulf was forced to watch as the majority of its intercity traffic was stolen away by more convenient rail service.

With its population of sailors nearly wiped out from the war and the town's former glory all but lost, Port Gulf is slowly returning to its humble days as a quiet fishing hamlet.

file no. 14 Patria



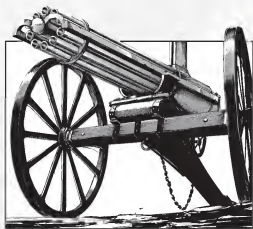
A young nation rocked by war.

Patria is a democratic republic created by colonists of the Patrian continent who achieved independence from the Old World roughly 100 years ago.

The well-industrialized North and the natural resource-rich South are divided by a vast, undeveloped plains region. Numerous economic disagreements with the Northern central government eventually led several Southern regions to form a confederation, marking the beginning of a long civil war between the Northern Union of Patria, where the capital of Newfort stands, and the Southern Confederation of Patria.

Relations between North and South have normalized following the end of the war, but both sides continue to use their own systems of governance. The Incarnates brought the Civil War to an end, but the country's wounds run deep. Both sides continue to struggle with poverty and inequality resulting from the conflict, and the underlying causes of the war remain unresolved. Even now, the embers yet burn.

file no. 19 | Rotary Machine Cannon



A superweapon that generates a deluge of bullets.

A special weapon prepared for Coup de Grace capable of firing a rapid succession of anti-Incarnate armor-piercing rounds through its rotating barrels.

Based on an anti-infantry weapon developed towards the end of the Civil War, its heaviness makes moving and rotating the cannon difficult, which, when combined with its limited range, makes it all but impossible to strike a target without first luring it directly in front of the barrels.

The machine cannon used by Coup de Grace has been modified to be more powerful in combat with Incarnates as well as altered to make it somewhat lighter. These changes have proven effective, allowing the cannon fire to pierce durable Incarnate skin and armor. The cannon is also able to be disassembled into smaller parts for transport, making it ideally suited to a squadron that must travel to various regions in order to fell Incarnates.

To the
Abandoned
Sacred
Beasts

file no. 17 | Free Nation of New Patria



A utopia for humans and Incarnates.

A rebel force comprised primarily of people disappointed in the way the Civil War ended in peace, New Patria seeks to overthrow Patria's government, and is rapidly expanding throughout the continent's western expanses.

With a core force of surviving Incarnates led by former Incarnate Squad Lieutenant Cain Madhouse, New Patria's military forces have been further bolstered by former soldiers of the Northern and Southern armies who had nowhere to go after the war ended. Their numbers are weak when compared to the military of the Northern Union of Patria, but the presence of Incarnates poses a definite threat. The Incarnates garner respect as tragic heroes and are spared the persecution they would face elsewhere.

Despite calling itself a nation, neither the Northern Union nor the weakened Southern Confederation acknowledge New Patria's sovereignty.

file no. 18 | Incarnate Extermination Squad, Coup de Grace



A human squadron created to hunt down Incarnates.

A squadron formed by Northern Patria's government to hunt down the remaining Incarnates, Coup de Grace's members number around 30

strong, and are backed up in their mission by reserve and support units.

Coup de Grace was ostensibly formed in response to public outcry against Incarnates following the widespread destruction in the aftermath of the Whitechurch Incident, but its true purpose is to whittle away reverence for Incarnates and thin their numbers in preparation for the coming battle against New Patria.

Formed around a core of young, elite Union Military talent and outfitted with special equipment specifically designed for anti-Incarnate combat, Coup de Grace exists as a unique entity within the Union forces and does not have a unit number.

True to its name, the intent of the squadron is to deliver a swift and merciful death to the heroes-turned-Beasts.



ISSUE

VS. HANK

Under orders from his father, the President, Claude leads the elite troop Coup de Grace in their mission of exterminating Incarnates. Hank, still determined to follow through on his promise to his former Incarnate underlings, continues his murderous mission on his own. In the end, which of these men has justice on their side? And when the time comes that the Beast Hunter becomes the hunted, fresh blood will spill across the Patrian continent...

COMING THIS WINTER!



NEXT

COUP de GRACE

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Beasts

VOL.

4

To The Abandoned Sacred Beasts 3

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